WEDNESDAY
October 4, 2023

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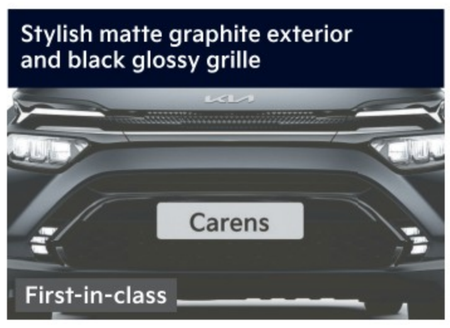

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TRUDEAU CLEARS THE AIR

'Canada not looking to escalate situation'

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'Will remove Indian forces from the Maldives'

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'India's GDP to grow at 6.3% in FY24'

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India carries the weight of expectations

It needs to replicate the trend of hosts winning

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DOUBLE DELIGHT

Annu, Parul make it a golden day for India

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NEARBY

Caste census report may be submitted in Nov.

BENGALURU
Amid clamour to publicise the caste census data, dominant caste groups are coming together to oppose the report, likely to be submitted in November this year. » PAGE 4

Carpooling apps decision soon

BENGALURU
Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy on Tuesday clarified that there was no ban on carpooling in Bengaluru. The government has said that it will take a call on the apps in 10 days and the aggregators can continue operations. » PAGE 3

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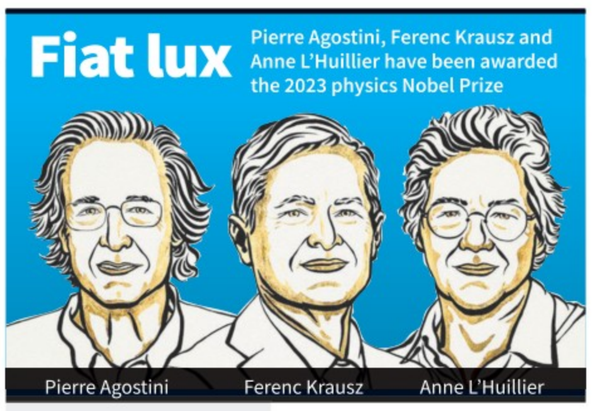

FULL REPORT » PAGE 13

Modi says he rejected KCR's request to join NDA in 2020

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday that Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao, known as KCR, wanted to join the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance after the 2020 municipal polls in Hyderabad, for which he had also sought BJP support.

However, Mr. Modi said he had shot down the proposal, as he did not wish to "cheat the people of Telangana".

Before making the allegations, the Prime Minister, speaking at a public meeting in Nizamabad, said that he was going to disclose a secret which he had never revealed in public before, and called upon the assembled media to take note of it.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

NewsClick founder arrested under UAPA

Delhi Police search homes and offices of journalists of the news portal and question them in an alleged terror case; seize phones, laptops

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Tuesday arrested Prabir Purkayastha, founder and Editor-in-Chief of news portal *NewsClick* and its Human Resources head Amit Chakraborty in an alleged terror case.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (PRO) Suman Nalwa said that a total of 46 "suspects", including nine women, were questioned and their phones, laptops and devices seized for further examination. She added that proceedings were on and two persons had been arrested thus far.

Police raided the homes and offices of journalists, authors, academics, contributors and a satirist associated with the news portal in a terrorism case.

Attack on press: Founder and Editor-in-Chief of NewsClick Prabir Purkayastha being brought to Delhi Police Special Cell. AP

The journalists were asked questions about the Delhi communal riots and the CAA agitation of 2019-20, the farmers protest of 2020-21 and whether they used encrypted messaging applications such as Signal on their phones.

The Special Cell of the Delhi Police had registered a first information report (FIR) in the case on August 17 under Sections 13, 16, 17, 18 and 22 of the anti-terror Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and Sections 153A and 120B of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) for promoting religious enmity between groups and criminal conspiracy, respectively.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10
MORE REPORTS » PAGE 10

Woman, two children killed in accident on NICE Road

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 31-year-old woman and her two daughters, aged six and two, were killed, while her husband was severely injured when the car they were travelling in crashed into a truck coming from the opposite direction on Sompura Clover Leaf Junction on NICE Road in the wee hours on Tuesday.

After the collision, the car caught fire, and the truck driver lost control and the vehicle overturned.

Sindhu and her two-year-old child died on the spot, while her other daughter died in the hospital.

Her husband, Mahendran S., 35, from Salem, has been admitted to the hospital.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 2

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Ground Survey

As the ICC ODI World Cup is all set to be held in India from October 5 to November 19, an in-depth look at the venues which will host the cricketing extravaganza; today, we feature the Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium in Gahunje, Pune

EMMANUAL YOGINI

Shayan Acharya

The last time Pune hosted an ODI World Cup fixture, way back in 1996, the Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium in Gahunje was not even built. The group league outing between the West Indies and Kenya – which the latter won by 73 runs – was played at the Nehru Stadium.

But 27 years later as the city gears up to host five World Cup 2023 fixtures – including an India vs Bangladesh game – the excitement is in the air. The Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium, located about 30 kilometres away from the city centre, has undergone a face-lift for the first time since its inauguration in April 2012.

The State association recently organised a World Cup trophy tour, where fans gathered in large numbers, chanting slogans like, '*Jeetega Bhai Jeetega, India Jeetega*,' and '*Vande Mataram*'.

Under the leadership of MCA president Rohit Pawar, a new sunroof is being installed in the stadium to ensure a smooth experience for the fans. If you are planning to watch a game here, here's all you need to know...

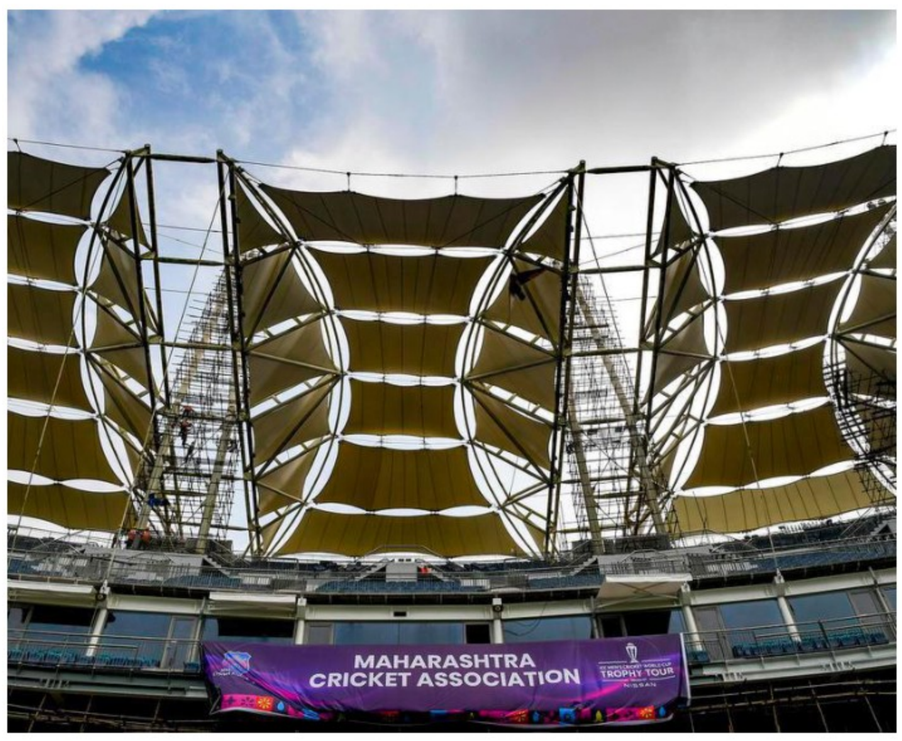
Capacity: The stadium has a capacity of 42,653, but to accommodate sight-screens on both ends and extend the dressing room arena keeping the international protocols in mind, some seats remain out of bounds.

According to Maharashtra Cricket Association officials, more than 36,000 tickets have gone up for sale on *BookMyShow*. The association has partnered with the ticketing agency and plans to set up multiple kiosks in the stadium premises and in some parts of the city leading up to the tournament where spectators can collect the physical tickets.

The hospitality boxes: There are 32 corporate hospitality boxes with a seating capacity of 12 each. "There are exclusive washrooms in each of those hospitality boxes. There are designated dining areas and lounges to ensure absolute comfort of the guests and dignitaries," says Ajinkya Joshi, the COO of the Maharashtra Cricket Association. Apart from the hospitality boxes, some of which are owned by noted corporate groups of the city, the plush president's box can accommodate 54 spectators.

Practice facilities: Four strips on both ends of the square have been earmarked for training and nets sessions. Apart from that, there is an indoor facility inside the stadium premises where the teams can train, if they wish to. A separate state-of-the-art gymnasium is located on the ground floor of the stadium, adjacent to the dressing rooms.

Pitches: In total, there are 11 wickets, of which four will be used for the World Cup on a rotation basis. The pitch is made up



of black soil – unlike the stadiums in Mumbai – and the boundary is shorter. Even though the venue has hosted several IPL and T20Is over the years, it hasn't hosted an ODI since March 2021, but going by the previous records, the curators indicate that it will be a traditional Gahunje wicket, where batters could have the edge.

In 2021, when India played three ODIs against England in Pune, all the matches were high-scoring affairs, with the teams crossing the 300-mark. According to the MCA officials, some of the areas were given a bit of 'fine-tuning' after the Maharashtra Premier League got over a couple of months ago.

Drainage and outfield: The stadium has a sand-based outfield. A layer of gravel, blinding layers of washed grit and sand with the root zone layer of silica sand, zeolite and cocopeat have been deployed to make the drainage system as efficient as possible.

The stadium has a hover cover, which is used to cover the square. "With an improved drainage system, matches can resume quickly even if it rains," says an MCA official.

On match days, the association deputes 20 groundsmen to get the ground ready and the same will continue for the World Cup as well.

Entry points: There are four gates – of which Gate No. 2 is restricted to the players and the dignitaries. The stadium is located on the Mumbai-Pune Highway and reaching here could be a challenge as there are not many options in terms of public transport. The Maharashtra Cricket Association has decided to repair the access roads – which are quite narrow – leading to the stadium before the tournament, so that those coming in their own vehicles won't face any challenges.

To avoid any traffic congestion outside the stadium, about 20 acres of land has been rented from villagers to supplement its own parking space. "Once the rains are over, we will work on war-footing to repair the service roads to avoid any inconvenience to visitors," Joshi says, adding: "We have tied up with a professional agency that will help us with parking. Those who have valid tickets can use this parking space."

Accessibility and challenges: From the entrance to the stands is a long walk. And when India squares off against Bangladesh on October 19, things could get challenging for the fans to find their way to the respective blocks and zones amid tight security.

But MCA seems to have found a way to address the issue. While there will be signages put up in each and every corner of the stadium, volunteers will be deputed to make sure the fans are guided to their respective blocks.

In the South-East block, a particular area has been earmarked for the differently-abled. "There will be about 15-20 seats that will be kept exclusively for the differently-abled, and that block will have a ramp so that they don't have any problem in reaching their seats," says apex council member Sunil Mutha, adding: "We also have wheelchair services for the fans..."

In case of emergency: There's round-the-clock ambulance service in the stadium premises. During the tournament, medical kiosks will be set up across the stadium for spectators.

The MCA is set to tie up with a local hospital for on-ground medical services. "The doctors will be available throughout the matches and we will have quite a few super-speciality ambulances," the MCA COO says.

Dressing rooms: There are two dressing rooms – one for the home team and another for the away team. On the first floor, there are two spacious viewing galleries from where the players can watch the proceedings.

There are toilets in each of the dressing rooms – along with a shower room. The state-of-the-art gymnasium is located on the ground floor and can be accessed by both teams.

Washrooms: There are 76 washrooms in the stadiums – of which 32 are in hospitality boxes. On the ground floor, there are 16 toilets – for men and women – while that on Level One is four. The second and third levels have six and 10 washrooms each.

There are six washrooms in the player arena, while the other two are in the Old Broadcast arena.

Water: There are water stations on all the ten blocks that would provide RO water to the spectator.

The BCCI also plans to tie up with the official 'pouring partner' of the tournament to provide free drinking water for all the spectators.

Solar panels and LEDs: Though the stadium hasn't installed solar panels yet, it uses LED floodlights in the stadium premises. "There are four floodlight poles with each having 142 LED lights," says an official.

What's new: Earlier, most parts of the stadium did not have a sunroof. But ahead of the mega event, MCA president Pawar has taken the initiative of putting up new sunroofs in the East-West and the diagonally opposite blocks. "The president has taken this initiative to make sure that the fans have a smooth experience, and it's because of his efforts that we have started the work on a war-footing," says Joshi.

The MCA officials are confident that the sunroofs will be installed by the first week of October.

To accommodate journalists from across the globe, the association has expanded the media centre and now it can accommodate around 150 people.

Areas that need attention Since the stadium is quite far from the city, there are concerns regarding the availability of public transport. Narrow service roads and parking issues make it equally challenging for fans to book rides from the stadium on match days.

As the World Cup returns to the city after more than two-and-a-half decade, the fans are excited to attend the games in large numbers, so keeping that in mind, it needs to be seen whether the MCA partners with the local authorities to arrange some local transport or introduce shuttle services to ply the spectators.

THE GIST

The Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium will host five matches

October 19
India vs Bangladesh

October 30
Afghanistan vs Sri Lanka

November 1
New Zealand vs South Africa

November 8
England vs Sri Lanka

November 11
Australia vs Bangladesh

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BUSINESS CONNECT

A Business Initiative

Office Bearers elected for Bangalore Trades Association's 125th year celebrations

"Mr. Vijayashekar Ravi of Deepam Silks was re-elected unanimously as President of The Bangalore Trades Association at the recent AGM of the Association with a Photo Walk Session on M.G. Road. This will be followed by a Special Wedding Shopping Festival and a Special Deepawali Shopping Bonanza to be announced shortly. Sri Sreesh R. Babu of Prakruthi Ads was also re-elected Hon. Secretary for the period unanimously. Naveen Pische of P.N. Rao was re-elected Vice President and Mr. Deepak Welling as Hon. Treasurer Unanimously for the same period. The Committee Members re-elected was Mr. Suresh Desai of Twinkle, Mr. Inayat Shah, Mr. Omar of Manyavar and Mr. Prasanna of Vijayalakshmi Silks.The Association has also proposed to bring out a Coffee Table Book specially featuring all the organisations that have been decorating M.G. Road and surrounding Areas for more than 50 year

Canara Bank organised Swachata Hi Seva (SHS) – One Hour Shramdaan

Recently Canara Bank having it's Head Office at Bengaluru organized Swachata Hi Seva campaign ("Ek Tareek, Ek Ghanta") with theme "Garbage Free India". Shri K Satyanarayana Raju, Managing Director & CEO along with all Executive Directors, Chief General Managers, General Managers, other Executives and staff including Bengaluru citizens participated in cleanliness drive at Krishna Rao Park, Dewan Madhava Rao Road and Netkalappa Circle, near Dwarakanath Bhavan, Basawanagudi, Bengaluru which was a grand success. Other activities taken up by the Bank includes cleaning of campuses of Colleges, Schools, Hospitals, Shopping complexes, Bus Stands etc. Schools, Hospitals, Shopping complexes, Bus Stands etc. Canara Bank organized the said campaign across its 24 Circle Offices, 176 ROs and other Offices/Branches/Business Units all over India in support of the Swachta Hi Seva (SHS) Campaign organized by Govt. of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services.

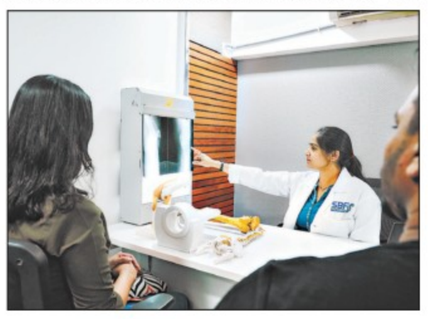
World Heart Day observed at Fortis Hospital

Fortis Hospital Cunningham Road and Nagarbhavi observed World Heart Day 2023 with a meaningful initiative. Key cardiologists and with a team of doctors along with staff led a pledging ceremony early morning where staff and doctors wrote their pledges on paper hearts. These hearts formed a Chain of Paper Hearts, spanning over 100 meters around both hospitals. This display symbolized unity and raised awareness about heart health. Passersby were also encouraged to check their blood sugar and blood pressure.

NU Hospitals, Shivamogga performs life-changing kidney transplants for young patients disease cases among individuals under 30 years old. The team of Dr. Praveen Malavade - Transplant Physician, Dr. Pradeepa M G - Transplant and Robotic Urology Surgeon and Dr. Karthik S L - Transplant Anesthetist at NU Hospitals, Shivamogga recently performed three successful kidney transplants for patients under 30 years age group. Dr Praveen Malavade spoke about NU Hospital achieving another milestone by performing a kidney transplant on a 23-year-old patient with the donor kidney possessing three renal arteries, presenting a unique surgical challenge & on a 22 year old who was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at 16 and later developed kidney disease. The patient underwent a life-changing kidney transplant, recovered & in excellent health. NU Hospital in Shivamogga is a renowned healthcare institution dedicated to providing top-tier medical care and pioneering advanced treatment options. With a team of accomplished medical professionals and state-of-the-art facilities, the hospital specialises in various medical disciplines, including transplantation, to ensure optimal outcomes for its patients by the expert team of Doctors.

SBF Healthcare opens its new treatment centre in Barton Centre, MG Road

SBF Healthcare, the company that introduced the revolutionary SPMF Therapy to India, has inaugurated its new clinic in Barton Centre, MG Road - its third in the city - making it all the more accessible to Bengalureans from different parts of the city. Talking about the new centre, Leena Vasistha, said: "We are thrilled to be opening our third centre in Bengaluru with Barton Centre on MG road. We hope to help patients in pain heal and recover without any surgery and live a happy hassle-free life. We've had over 10,000 success cases and are growing. Our vision is to open centres pan-India by mid next year of 2024." Slowly being considered as one of the most effective alternative treatment centres for osteoarthritis, degenerative spinal cord issues and even cancer, SBF Healthcare was founded by Late Wing Commander (Dr) V. G. Vasishta, a professor and head at the institute of Aerospace Medicine, Indian Air Force. SPMF Therapy beyond the standard available options that include surgery and chemotherapy and/or radiation in case of cancer. that is not only safe and non-invasive but also bereft of side effects. SBF Healthcare is a trustworthy name whose focus is on cure as well as balance and improved quality of life.



TTK Prestige unveils Nakshatra V2: The Ultimate Kitchen Companion

Recently TTK Prestige, India's leading and most trusted kitchen appliance Company, was thrilled to announce the launch of a new range of mixer grinders, Nakshatra V2. Geared to redefine the cooking experience in every Indian kitchen, this Mixer Grinder is the perfect combination of cutting-edge technology and style. TTK Prestige Limited is part of TTK Group. Over the past six decades, TTK Prestige Limited has emerged as India's largest kitchen appliances company catering to the needs of homemakers in the country. Every Prestige brand product is built on the pillars of safety, innovation, durability, and trust, making the brand the first choice in millions of homes. In April 2016, TTK Prestige launched 'Prestige Clean Home' a range of innovative home cleaning solutions. The company also bought UK-based Horwood Homewares in the same month and launched Judge Brand in India in August 2017.

BANASWADI MILITARY GARRISON

BANGALORE-560043.

NOTICE INVITING APPLICATION FOR ALLOTMENT OF SHOPS AT BANASWADI MILITARY GARRISON, BANGALORE-560043

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   (a) OR Institute (Food Restaurant). **(b)** Vegetable Shop (at Chaudhary Line, Govt. Married Accommodation Area) **(c)** Cycle Repair Shop. **(d)** Boot Repair Shop.
2. Application Form including Terms & Conditions for running of above mentioned Shops can be obtained from the Main Gate, Banaswadi Military Garrison. Bangalore-560043 at the cost of Rs. 500/- (Rupees five hundred only) each from 0900 hours to 1400 hours on all working days till 15 Oct. 2023. **Last date of submission of application form is 10 Nov. 2023.**
3. Interested parties can go around the shop with prior permission from authority before last date of submission of application form.
4. The application will be enfaced with **"Application for Allotment of Shop"** on the envelop at the time of submission.

The Application shall be submitted to Garrison Commander, Banaswadi Military Garrison, Bangalore - 560043

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ಸಂ: ನೆಯೋಪ್ರಾ/ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ/ನಿಕೇವಣಿ/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29–10–2023

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ನೆಲಮಂಗಲ ಯೋಜನಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದಲ್ಲಿ **ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ನಿಧಿ ಒಟ್ಟು ರೂ. 106.47 ಕೋಟಿಗಳನ್ನು ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಮೀರದಂತೆ ನಿಶ್ಚಿತ ಠೇವಣಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೂಡಿಕೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ** ಅರ್ಹ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಕೃತ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ಗಳಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ TPA/2023-24/AUCTION II ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇ–ಹರಾಜು ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಅರ್ಹ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಕೃತ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ನವರು ದಿನಾಂಕ: **10–10–2023 ರಂದು ಸಮಯ ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆ ಒಳಗೆ** ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಬಹುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು
ನಗರ ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಯೋಜನೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸದಸ್ಯ–ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ,
ನೆಲಮಂಗಲ ಯೋಜನಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ನೆಲಮಂಗಲ.

ವಾಸಸಂ೦/ಪ್ರಾ.ಪ್ರ/1529/ಅಡ್ಮಿನ್/2023–24

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF STUDY AND RESEARCH IN LAW, RANCHI

At Nagri, PO- Bukru, Kanke-Pithoria Road, Kanke, Ranchi 834006

Ref: NUSRL/RNC/2023/111883 **DATE: 01/10/23**

Faculty Recruitment

National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi invites applications from eligible candidates for the Regular / Contractual faculty positions as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Post	No. of Posts
1.	Professor (Law) (Regular)	3
2.	Associate Professor (Law)(Regular)	2
3.	Assistant Professor (Law) (Regular)	4
4.	Assistant Professor (Psychology) (Contractual)	1

Relevant reservation rules apply.
Pay band and qualification as per UGC norms.
The details of Procedure for applying are available on University website www.nusrlranchi.ac.in.The last date for receiving application is 05/11 /2023, 5 PM.

Sd/-
Assistant Registrar (I/c)

PR.NO.308185 Law(23-24):D

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Only through E-Procurement Mode)

No.SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-1/F-/23-24/5044-46 Date: 03.10.2023

KPTCL invites bid against Bid Enquiry No.:

1) KPTCL/SEE/Tr(M)/ BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-1/2021-22/EPR-18/CALL-15 Dated 28.12.2021 for the **work of replacement of deteriorated tower type DA+0 at 66kV Tower No.71 in the existing 66/11kV DG3-DG4 DC line from existing 66/11kV Manyatha Tech Park Substation to existing 66/11kV Hoskote Substation near Hirandahali lake limits, Bangalore rural.**

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Only through E-Procurement Mode)

No.SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/F-122(27)/23-24/5051-52, 5056-57, 5061-62 & 5066-67 Date: 03.10.2023

KPTCL invites bid against for the follwing works:

2) bid against enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/ Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/22-23/EPR-44/CALL-7 Dtd:21.10.2022 for the work of **Dismantling, Transportation (to and fro), Repair, Testing, Erection and commissioning of sick Power Transformer of rating 31.5 MVA, 66/11KV, Victory make, Sl. No.4-0012/5 year of manufacture 2009 Lying at 66/11kV Prestige Shanthiniketan Sub-station on total turnkey basis.**

3) bid against enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/ Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/23-24/EPR-02/CALL-1 Dtd:03.10.2023 for the work of **Dismantling, Transportation (to and fro), Repair, Testing, Erection and commissioning of sick Power Transformer of rating 31.5 MVA, 66/11KV, BBL make, Sl. No.4934/1, year of manufacture 2006 Lying at 66/11kV Jayadeva Sub-station on total turnkey basis.**

4) bid against enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/ Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/23-24/EPR-03/CALL-1 Dtd: 03.10.2023 for the work of **Dismantling, Transportation (to and fro), Repair, Testing, Erection and commissioning of sick Power Transformer of rating 31.5 MVA, 66/11KV, BBL make, Sl. No.4934/7, year of manufacture 2006 Lying at 66/11kV Sarakki Sub-station on total turnkey basis.**

5) bid against enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/ Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/23-24/EPR-04/CALL-1 Dtd:03.10.2023 for the work of **Dismantling, Transportation (to and fro), Repair, Testing, Erection and commissioning of sick Power Transformer of rating 20 MVA, 66/11KV, NGEF make, Sl. No.2800060083, year of manufacture 2001 Lying at 66/11kV Leela Venture Sub-station on total turnkey basis.**

The Bids will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink 'e-Procurement-KPTCL' or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **04.10.2023.** Copy of the publication may please be sent to this office for record.

Sd/-, Superintending Engineer, Elecl.,
Transmission (Maintenance), BMAZ, South Circle, Ground Floor, KPTCL Office Complex, KPTCL, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru-560 009.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Sri. Sandeep Sarkar, S/o Sri. Swapan Kumar Sarkar has intend to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration with its owner M/s. Pleasure spaces properties Pvt. Ltd, represented by its Directors Sri. Satyanarayana B, Sri. Ramakrishna K, Sri. Krishnore Babu T and Sri. Chandrashekar G. having its office at PSI Plaza, Opp to ICICI Bank, behind Swasthik Hospital, T. C. Halli, Sarjapura road, Bangalore- 562125.

If any persons, banks, financial intuitions etc., having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE

Residential Plot bearing No.79, Khata No. 246/79, PID No. 150300201100320074 measuring East to West 15.24 mts. & North to South 9.14 mts, total measuring 139.29 Sq.mts. in the layout known as "PLEASURE SPACES NIRVANA", formed in converted Sy. No. 49/1, as per approval No. STRRPA/TP/ LAO/48/2021-22, Dt: 17/02/2023, situated at Polanahalli Village, Channarayapatna Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, and bounded on the : East by : Plot No. 52, West by : Road, North by : Plot No.78, South by :Plot No.80.

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY,
ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR,
Advocates, # 96, 1st Floor, 1st Main, 4th Cross, Maruthi Nagar, Madiwala, Bangalore-560068,
Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832
Bangalore, Date : 03-10-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public hereby notified that my client **Mrs. Pramila M wife of Mr. Babu Reddy,** residing at No. E-73, 4th Main, 7th Cross, Opp: Sharavathi Apartment, Roopena Agrahara, Madiwala, Bangalore-560 068 is the absolute owner and is in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the Property mentioned below in the Schedule. She has lost/misplaced the Original Sale Deed dated 17-03-1986, registered as Document No.881/1986 of Book I, Volume 3238, pages 449 to 451, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar of Madras North pertaining to the Schedule Property. In this connection, an E-Complaint has also been lodged **on 03-10-2023 vide Lost Report No. 0750790/2023.**

I hereby call upon the General public if anyone is in custody or possession of the same or otherwise found the above said document, kindly handover to undersigned immediately/ within **7 days** and they may be suitably awarded and also I further bring into the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the Schedule Property on the basis of the above said original document, it shall not be binding on my client and the same will be an offence and they are liable to punish under the Criminal and Civil Law.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing **Site No.19,** Katha No.26, House List No.37/2, situated at **Roopena Agrahara, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** presently comes under the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, bearing No. 175/162/158/89/37/2-19, measuring East to West 50 Feet an North to South 30 Feet in all measuring **1500 Sq. ft.,** and bounded on:

East by : 30 Feet Road, West by : Private Property; North by : House List No.37/2 (Site No.18); South by : Private Property.

KRISHNAMURTHY. P, Advocate
No.11, 1st Floor, "MEERA NIVAS"
Opp: Sai Baba Temple, North Park Road,
Seshadripuram, Bangalore-500 020.
Contact : 9740718436

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION HINGOLI
E-TENDER NOTICE NO 51 (IIIrd Call) YEAR 2023-2024

E-Tenders for ONE (01) works in B-1 form is invited by the Executive Engineer Public Works Division Hingoli Phone No 02456 220612 from the registered contractors in appropriate class of Public Works Department of Govt of Maharashtra for the improvement roads/two yearly maintenance of roads/repairs of building / Bridge / construction of new buildings / Gram Vikas works in Dist Hingoli

The details can be viewed and downloaded from following website
www.mahapwd.gov.in
https://mahaetenders.gov.in/

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Public Works Division,Hingoli

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of My Client **Sri. Godwin Arun Coelho** to bring the notice of the general public that the original registered Sale deed doc No. JGN-1-00834-2011-12 of Book-1, stored in CD No. JGND153, Dated 24-05-2011, executed by **Sri.V. Thimma Reddy and others** in favour of **Sri. Godwin Arun Coelho** is missing/lost/misplaced in respect of schedule property.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document, they may contact the undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing **Site 184,** Katha Sl.No. 562, **"WESSEX",** carved out of converted land in Sy.No. 24/2 of **Kachanayakanahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk,** measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 feet and in all admeasuring **1200 Sq.ft.,** and bounded as follows:-

East By : Site number 185,
West By : Site number 183,
North By : Road,
South By : Site number 193.

H.Santhosh.Kumar, Advocate
No.1386, 4th Block,
Sir.M. Vishweshwaraiah Layout,
Bangalore - 560110.
Phone : 9886942117.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my Client **Mr. Ahsanulla Khan,** Son of Attaulla Khan Mobile No. 9901777786 has negotiated to purchase below mentioned Schedule Property from its present owners Mrs.Stella Angela Pia and Basil John Pio, who have jointly acquired the title & Possession by virtue of Registered WILL dt:-21st April 2006 executed by their Father Late Neelakantan Thankappan Nair alias N.T.Nair, Any person/s, institution/s having any right, title, interest, claim, demand, charge or encumbrance over the schedule property may notify his/their claim or objections if any, together with documentary proof to the undersigned within **Seven (7)** days from the date of this notice, failing which it would be conclusively presumed, and deemed that no person/s has/have any right, title, interest, claim, charge or encumbrance whatsoever in the Schedule Property and further my client will be entitled to proceed with the transaction and get register the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel Municipal New No.121 (KHB allotted No.121), situated at K.H.B.Colony, 5th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore with allotted PID No. 67-4-121, New BBMP Ward No.151, measuring East to West-45feet and North to South-65feet in all 2925square feet. Bounded on the: **East by:** Site No.122, **West by:** Private Property, **North by:** Site No.120, **South by:** Road.

R.A. RAHMAN, N.M. Nanjunde Gowda, Suhail Ahmed Khan, A. Rafia Shaheen, Anjum Banu, Advocates
No.1, Tipu chambers, 2nd floor, 4th Cross, N.R Road, Bangalore-560002. Karnataka.
Date: 02-10-2023.

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SITUATION VACANT

OVERSEAS

INDIAN SCHOOL SALALAH
Salalah, Sultanate of oman

Requires **Teaching Staff** urgently for AY 2024-25 in Primary & Middle section as per the list of vacancies posted in their school website.

Interested candidates may please visit the school website and can fill the application form or scan the QR code to fill the application form.

Visit us: www.indianschoolsalalah.com
Last date to apply: 20th October, 2023

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, DINAKARAN A, # 60, Bidrahalli, Bang have changed my name from TINAKARAN A to DINAKARAN A for all future purposes by affidavit 23–09–2023, Notary Udaykumar.K

I, MARIYA Selvi W/o A.Anthony Xavier, residing at No.66 Shamanna Layout, St.Thomas Town, Lingarajapura, Bangalore-560084, declare that i have changed my name from Mariya Selvi to L.Yeshoda, vide affidavit dated: 03.10.2023 sworn before A.Gerard, Notary, Bengaluru

I, CARMEL Michelle, D/o.Late Christopher Gerard, r/at #139, 7th Cross, Old Post Office, R.K.Hegde Nagar, Bengaluru 560077 have changed my name as Fathima Kulsum vide affidavit dtd 03.10.2023 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bluru

I, MOHAMMED Lathif H @ Mohammed latif Haneef, S/o.Mohammed Haneef, R/at #24, R H Colony, Adugodi, Bengaluru 560030 have changed my name as Mohammed Lathif vide affidavit dtd 30.09.2023 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bluru

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RAMESHA Yelagowdanahalli Srinivaiyer S/o Srinivasa Iyer Y K residing at No.11, 1st Main, Sharadanagar, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru-560065 have changed my name to Ramesh Yelagowdanahalli Srinivasiyer vide affidavit dated 30-09-2023 before Meer Hassan Notary Bengaluru.

WE, MOHAMMED Shafeeq Ahmed and Mutahhira parents of Mohammed Numaan Husain R/o 23, Kandaswamy Mudaliar Road, Frazer Town, Bengaluru-560005 have changed the name of our minor son to Mohammed Numan Husain vide affidavit dated 30-09-2023 before Meer Hassan Notary B'luru

I, Swapna Veerla R/o #16, 1st A Main, 3rd Cross, Ramanjaneyanagar, Chikkalsandra B'lore - 560061 have changed my minor son's name from Havish V S to Havish Veerla for all purposes.

I, LALITHA, D/o Saabudin r/at No.23, 1st B Cross, Ramaiah layout, Peenya 2nd Stage, Bengaluru 560058 have changed my name as Shareefamma vide affidavit dtd 30.09.2023 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bluru

INBRIEF

'Swachhata Hi Seva' to be observed till October 31

The Central Silk Board, Ministry of Textiles and its nested institutes and units will observe 'Swachhata Hi Seva' from October 1 till October 31. According to a release, the inaugural day of the Swachhata programme, the officers and staff of the CSB took pledge on Swachhata and vowed to keep the office and surroundings neat and tidy and also to motivate others to do the same. On the occasion, S. Manthira Moorthy, director (tech), CSB, and S. Periyasamy, director, CSTRI, Bengaluru, spoke on the importance of the cleanliness and measures implemented by the CSB to make working environment clutter-free.

From Page One

Woman, two children killed in accident

The car that was involved in the accident caught fire. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The family had rented a car for an outing and was heading from Mysuru Road towards Kanakapura Road when the accident occurred around 2.05 a.m. The Talaghattapura traffic police have registered a case against Mahendran on charges of rash and negligent driving and causing death due to negligence. After an initial probe, it's suspected that Mahendran was tired and dozed off, which could have been the reason for the accident. However, the FSL team is investigating further to ascertain the exact reason for the accident.

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated October 4, we have the My City My Take column, in which civic evangelist V. Ravichandar tells us how incremental changes in the local neighbourhood, coupled with being law-abiding citizens in public, backed by the implementation of the rule of law, can help us build a better Bengaluru.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (October 4, Wednesday), the following articles are available:

- The shutdown of the Afghan embassy
bit.ly/afghanembassy
- Interview | Mathematician Apoorva Khare
bit.ly/mathsinterview

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Law and order police to help traffic counterparts manage peak hour rush

It will ensure traffic discipline among road users, and also share the burden of traffic policemen, says Police Commissioner

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To tackle Bengaluru's infamous traffic problem, which made headlines again recently during the recent chaos on Outer Ring Road (ORR) ahead of the long weekend, the city police have roped in the law and order police to help their traffic counterparts smoothen the traffic flow during peak hours.

City Police Commissioner B. Dayananda said that the plan to rope in civil police to manage traffic along with regular traffic policemen is not only to ensure vehicle discipline among road users, but also share the burden of the traffic policemen. Though this plan was mooted three months ago, it has been enforced recently due to the increasing traffic flow due to festive seasons and other programmes. "The combined efforts of the traffic police and civil police officers will improve traffic management, help in reducing congestion and in minimising travel time for the city's residents and commuters," he added.

Civil police personnel will be deployed to man traffic at busy stretches across the city. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Major roads in Bengaluru ahead of Gandhi Jayanti and the long weekend preceding it, which included Eid Milad holiday on Thursday and the Karnataka bandh on Friday, were hit by unusually high traffic congestion. The September 27 incident led to the Bengaluru Traffic Police and Outer Ring Road Companies Association (ORRCA) introducing measures to pre-empt such a situation, including imposing a ban on heavy vehicular traffic movement from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

"Bengaluru, known as a tech hub, is growing uncontrollably in terms of population and the number of vehicles added to it. The initiative of police personnel handholding each other to address this burning issue will help resolve the issues in many ways. Road discipline among motorists is as notorious as the traffic problem in the city. The traffic policemen at the junction are busy managing the traffic, while the civil police can oversee the road discipline issues like ensuring traffic discipline, monitor violations like haphazard parking, jaywalking, unnecessary honking, road rage, and reckless driving. The presence of policemen in uniform patrolling on the busy roads will bring in better behaviour among the motorists," said C.K. Baba, DCP, South East.

Many road users welcomed the decision hoping that this could help them reach their destinations sooner. Rajashekharan, a resident of HSR Layout and working in a tech company in Electronics City, said that he spends over a hour and half to commute to his office every day. "Reaching office and back home is challenging. I hope the police comes up with ideas to ensure smoother commute for citizens," he added.

Jayaram N. is new BDA Commissioner

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The government has appointed 2004-batch IAS officer Jayaram N. as the Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) Commissioner. His appointment came after G. Kumar Naik retired on superannuation on September 30.

Mr. Jayaram, who is also Secretary to the Chief Minister, is expected to be relieved from the post. He was chairman of BWSSB.

Mr. Jayaram takes over BDA at a time when projects like Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout are moving at a snail's pace, while the Peripheral Ring Road Project has little to no consent from farmers.

Majority of stalled BBMP works may finally resume in November

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

Bringing major relief to the City, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), after a long hiatus, will likely resume majority of the civic works from November.

All works in Bengaluru had come to a grinding halt after the new Congress government assumed charge, which is a usual exercise for any new government in the State as it reviews the works tendered, conceptualised and sanctioned by the previous government before moving ahead.

Additionally, however, the Congress government also announced that it wants to look into the corruption allegations made against the previous BJP government, which further delayed the process. The Urban Development Department has set four Special Investigation Teams (SITs) to probe the quality of works executed between 2019-20 and 2022-23. However, coming under pressure from the contractors, the government has released a portion of pending bills for the works executed during the previous government even before the SIT could complete the investigations.

Now, with works of the city hampered and the southwest monsoon season coming to an end, the government wants to resume works, especially regarding stormwater drains and programme of works (PoW) sanctioned under BBMP grants.

The BBMP Chief Commissioner said storm-water drain works will start from November and pending payments of contractors are being cleared. FILE PHOTO

Work on drains

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath, speaking to *The Hindu*, said storm-water drain works will start from November and pending payments for the contractors are being cleared. He said it is common to restart work in this month which was stopped due to the monsoon. A few works have already begun that were stopped by the contractors, he said.

He further said PoW works to the tune of ₹856 crore were sanctioned and some were under way before being halted. These will also commence soon. On the other hand, of the ₹6,000 crore worth works sanctioned under Amrutha Nagarothana, over ₹2,000 crore had been completed. The works for which work orders were issued will resume and for others, the government will take a call on whether there is a necessity to implement the works in the same manner or need any change.

BBMP has completed about 45% of storm-water drain works. The works may also receive funding from the World Bank. Due to incomplete work, many areas had experienced inundation when it rained.

BBMP changes bill payment system for second time in a year

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The BBMP introducing a change in the payment system – delegating payment powers to zonal Chief Engineers (CE) – has raised several questions. The fresh system has also not gone down well with the contractors whose payments are pending.

The BBMP has now commenced payments of works completed under BBMP grants and released ₹411 crore. The amount pertains to bills generated between April 2021 and September 2021. However, the payment power has been now delegated to CEs from Zonal Commissioners. This is the second time the BBMP has introduced a change in the system, first being in October 2022.

First change

In October 2022, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath issued an order transferring payment power from the accounts department to zonal commissioners. The contractors then objected to the new system saying this would further complicate the payment process as they have to knock on the doors of commissioners at the zonal level for every bill. This system continued until payments were frozen. Now, another change in the system has irked the contractors.

K.T. Manjunath, BBMP Contractors' Association President, said this will add to the already existing tables for movement of files, delaying the payment process. He said there was no rationale behind this system and Mr. Giri Nath has to come clear as to why there was a change. He urged Mr. Giri Nath to reintroduce the old system and alleged that the new system may lead to corruption.

The BBMP has already released money to accounts of chief engineers, who will clear payments after inspection. According to sources, payment has started and several contractors have received the money.

Mr. Giri Nath told *The Hindu* that the new system was put in place in the interest of contractors and to ensure transparency.

In the old system, when zonal commissioners were holding powers, they were becoming party to the bills, which had the potential to hamper checks and balances in the system. Now, the zonal commissioners who are kept out of this system will scrutinise impartially, he said. Moreover, the payment is fast-tracked, he added.

Bescom and KREDL float tender for solarisation of agriculture feeders under PM Kusum Yojana

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

'There was no participation by bidders in the earlier tenders as the ceiling tariff was fixed at ₹2.32'

After not receiving any bids three times, the Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Ltd. (KREDL) and Bengaluru Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) have once again called a tender for the solarisation of agriculture feeders in the State to power irrigation pump (IP) sets.

The first of its kind project in the State under Component C (Individual Pump Solarisation) of PM Kusum Yojana will receive 30% subsidy for the solar plants from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

KREDL will solarise agri feeders at substation levels on behalf of Hubballi Electricity Supply Company (Hescom) and Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC) to provide power to 75,000 IP sets and Bescom will power 2,62,331 IP sets. "The workings of this project will be similar to that of how rooftop solar panels work in residential buildings. Throughout the day, the power generated by the solar panels installed in the substation will be used to run the IP sets under that substation," explained a Bescom official.

The total proposed solar capacity for the project is 1,302,31 MW (1,081 by Bescom, 180 by Hescom, and 41.31 by CESC) and a total of 806 agri feeders will be solarised across 248 substations. At a cost of ₹3.5 crore per MW, the total cost of the project is estimated to be ₹4,558.09 crore. The MNRE will provide ₹1.05 crore per MW as subsidy.

The solarised agri feeders are expected to help in efficient power supply while also helping Escoms cut down transmission costs. "We want to see decentralised power generation based on solar energy which is attached to the feeder from which we will supply power to the IP sets. We would also like to supply this power to the farmers during the day and with local generation, save our transmission charges," said Gaurav Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Energy Department.

The bidders who will get selected for the commissioning of the project would have to work through Renewable Energy Service Company (RESCO) mode for 25 years and take care of selection of power generators, Build, Own and Operate (BOO), Installation, Maintenance among other things.

According to sources, there was no participation by bidders in the earlier tenders as the ceiling tariff was fixed at ₹2.32 by the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC). There was no participation even when the tenders were invited without a ceiling tariff. Upon the requests from KREDL and Bescom, on September 6, KERC revised the ceiling tariff to ₹3.17 and thus fresh tenders have been floated now.

Diaper salesman held for stealing

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Tilaknagar police on Tuesday arrested a 35-year-old diaper salesman for allegedly breaking into the house of his relative to rob cash and gold valuables worth ₹1.1 crore.

The accused Mohammed Rafiq, a resident of Gurappanapalya, had planned the burglary one month in advance and even sourced the house keys to get a duplicate one. He recced the house many times and got to know that the house owner had planned to visit Ramanagara with his family for a wedding on September 29. Making use of the opportunity, the accused gained entry into the house and took away 2.5 kg of gold valuables and ₹10 lakh cash.

Rafiq used a scooter with a fake registration number plate and wore a covered helmet. The police analysed over 300 CCTV camera footages to track him down to his house, where he was arrested.

Government of Karnataka - Forest Department

Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhadravathi Division,Bhadravathi – 577301

Ph:08282-266355 Fax:08282-266647

e-mail:dcfbdvt@yahoo.in

No.: B1/Timber Auction.C.R.-41/2023-24 Date: 25.09.2023

Brief Tender Notice Regarding Disposal of Forest Produce like Timber/Firewood/Billets/Poles through e-Auction

The date has been fixed on 19.10.2023 for disposal through e-auction of Timber/Firewood/Billets/Poles stored in Tarikere Government Timber Depot in the limits of Bhadravathi Forest Division. The said e-Auction Sale Notice has been published in the letter of this office of even number dated 25.09.2023. Participation in the e-auction is subject to all conditions mentioned in the said Notice.

Further information regarding the e-auction can be obtained from authorized website of GoK www.aranya.gov.in and www.etimber.in

Sd/- (Ashish Reddy, IFS), Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhadravathi Division, Bhadravathi

DIPR/smg/No.04/10/ksmca/23-24/547

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
SPORTS AUTHORITY OF JHARKHAND
(DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, ART-CULTURE, SPORTS & YOUTH AFFAIR'S)
Gate No. 29-30, Birsa Munda Football Stadium, Morhabadi, Ranchi
e-mail- sajha9@gmail.com

Very Short e-TENDER NOTICE

Notice No. 35, Dated : 03-10-2023

e-Tenders in two parts Part-I (Technical and Commercial) and Part-II (price part) are invited from the reputed tenderers having good experience of following similar type of Electrical works and having sound financial status:

NIT No.	Name of the works	Estimated cost in Rs./-	Earnest money to be deposited in Rs./-	Cost of BOQ (Non-Refundable) in Rs./-	Time of completion of work.
9/PR/SAJHA /2023-24	Survey, rectification, replacement, Design, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning of Panels and wiring (cabling) system of High Mast Light at Hockey Stadium, Morabadi, Ranchi.	1,62,26,400/-	3,25,000/-	10,000/-	12 Days

Availability of tender documents on website	From 04-10-2023 at 5.00 PM to 12/10/2023 up to 5.00 PM
Last date and time for uploading of e-tender	Up to 12/10/2023 up to 5.00 PM
Last date and time for physical submission of original Demand Draft towards cost of BOQ and Earnest Money.	Up to 13/10/2023 up to 12.00 PM
Date and time for opening of Tender Part -I (Technical and Commercial)	At 3.30 PM on 13/10/2023
Date and time for opening of Tender Part -II (Price Part)	Will be Communicated later on
Tendering Officer and address for communication	Executive Director office, SAJHA, Morabadi, Ranchi

1. e-Tender documents and BOQ including terms & conditions, specification etc. can be downloaded and submitted online on website https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in.
2. Cost of tender fee, Earnest money (EMD) upto 13/13/2023 before 12:00 p.m In the office of Executive Director, Sports Authority of Jharkhand, Morhabadi, Ranchi shall be deposited. Only those tenders will entertained whose cost of tender/BOQ and Earnest money and tender documents is received before Schedule time.

Sd./-
Deputy Director
Sports Authority of Jharkhand

PR 308123 (Art Culture Sports and Youth Affairs) 23-24 (D)

‘If someone is interested in maths, they should be solving problems anywhere’

Apoorva Khare, recognised as one of India’s leading young mathematicians, talks about his early influences, his collaboration with mathematics superstar Terence Tao, and his thoughts on why prizes matter to researchers

INTERVIEW

Apoorva Khare

Mohan R.

Apoorva Khare is an associate professor of mathematics at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. He is one of the winners of the 2022 Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prizes (now remodelled as the Vigyan Yuva-Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award). This interview was conducted by Mohan R., a mathematician at Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, for *The Hindu*.

The questions are in bold. Post-interview additions are in square brackets. The transcript has been edited for style and length. The full interview is available to read online: bit.ly/khareinterview

What was your immediate reaction upon learning that you had won a Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar prize, which is currently the highest national science award?

I was caught by surprise. The CSIR Director General usually announces the Bhatnagar prizes on the 26th of September, but this time it happened 15 days early. Also, the prizes were not announced at all last year. It was my student who first told me that I had received a Bhatnagar prize. Within a few minutes of appearing on the official website, it was already reported on various news websites. It was quite surreal.

When did you realise that you want to pursue mathematics?

I think the realisation first came during school. It was the Regional Maths Olympiads in Odisha and my mother had got me some question books. I was as surprised as anybody that I stood first in that exam. I think I knew then that I wanted to be more serious about maths. I took the exam again in class XI, stood first again and this time I was able to clear the national exam. At the training camp for the International Maths Olympiad, I came across these incredibly clever people with really sharp minds. It really inspired me to see people think so fast.

That summer in 1996, I wrote my first paper on divisibility tests. I had seen a note in one of Shakuntala Devi’s books where she had described the divisibility test for the number 19. I knew the tests for 3, 9 and 11, as we study them in school. I wondered, “What about a test for 23 or 37, or any number? And why just for decimal base? Why not for every base?” So I came up with a test for any number written in any base and I wrote that up. The process of discovering, formulating a hypothesis, and then actually coming up with a proof felt so exhilarating to the 16-year-old me. It’s very simple arithmetic, but then I could get it published in an undergraduate journal. Having done this, and having seen my parents lead academic lives, I decided that I too wanted to pursue mathematics research as a career.

After school, you headed to the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) for your undergraduate degree. A bachelor’s degree at ISI is one of the most popular programmes for anyone who wants to pursue a career in mathematics. What was that experience like?

It was fabulous. Back then, there were very few places where one could pursue mathematics. Chennai Mathematical Institute wasn’t founded yet, nor did the B.Math. programme at ISI Bangalore or the BSc Mathematics programme at IIT Bombay. None of the IISERs existed. So there were very few options for me – either B.Stat. at ISI or the Integrated M.Sc. in an IIT.

At ISI they started the very first day at such a high level! We studied a lot of advanced mathematics.. The Olympiads had put me on a mental high so I really loved starting out at that level. I made it through the JEE but I did not attend the counselling at IIT, as by then I was sure I wanted to stay on in ISI.

I heard from one of your seniors at ISI that you used to literally “run” all the time. What was that about?

[Laughs] ISI at that time was very small. As the B.Stat. curriculum progressively got more statistics-oriented, I requested my classmates and my seniors to adjust their timetables so that I could attend advanced maths courses with my seniors in parallel to attending my own classes. They agreed, and so did our teachers – an amazing gesture to make just for one student, and one for which I have always remained grateful to the friendly culture of my classmates, seniors, and teachers at ISI Calcutta. Thus, I was able to attend five MSc-level maths courses in my last three semesters at ISI. This really helped me while applying abroad for a mathematics PhD.

I remember I would get caught up in something, realise that lunch break is ending and I have to come back to class. So I would run to the hostel campus, which was seven minutes away, quickly eat lunch, and run back. Unfortunately life is still busy, and my running habit has not stopped. Even at IISc, people say I still run, and it’s true!

How did you end up co-authoring *Beautiful, Simple, Exact, Crazy: Mathematics in the Real World* (2015)? It’s quite uncommon for a research mathematician to attempt to write such a book so early in their career before they have a permanent position.

While I was at Yale, I met Steven Orszag. We had no research interests in common, but he told me about something he felt passionately about. He said there is a lot of maths phobia among American students who enter college and are often required to take rigorous calculus courses. Steve said he wished somebody would come up with a course that explained the beauty, power, and applicability of maths.

The simplest application of maths in real life is that of mortgage – this is a big thing even here in India. Whether for a car, a house, or an expensive iPad, what you’re doing is adding up a ‘finite geometric series’. At the same time, if you know how to add geometric series, you can also talk about fractals, a theoretical concept that appears in mathematics, but also in art. On one side there is beautiful art and on the other side there is the practical idea of mortgage payments – both governed by the same mathematical equation.

I had the idea to collect a bunch of such equations that have actual real-world applications and teach them to students. Steve helped me submit this idea as a course to the Yale academic council and the course got approved.

It was very rewarding to see these kids learning an idea and getting the confidence to solve problems on their own. Learning how to do their mortgages might be one of the most important things they take away from college. There were also topics on probability, conditional probability, standard statistics, basic linear regression, and so on.

This happened during my last semester at Yale and I soon moved to Stanford. Anna Lachowska took over the course from me and she added her own set of topics; for example, she introduced the logarithmic scale of music. She suggested that we write a book combining both our topics, and that’s how Beautiful, Simple, Exact, Crazy came about.

As far as I know, the ‘Mathematics in the Real World’ course has been offered annually at Yale for more than 10 years now. The book is a resource that can be used by anybody. You can be a high school student, or somebody who has lost touch with maths, or a working professional going to night school.

The story of how one of your most popular projects, PolyMath14, unfolded is an intriguing one. Along with other mathematicians, you could establish a bridge between group theory, geometry, analysis, probability and computer assisted proofs. You also got to collaborate with Terence Tao, who is considered one of the greatest mathematicians of our time!

While working on a probability paper with one of my collaborators Bala Rajaratnam, I was led to think about a problem about “equipping an abelian group with distance.”. I emailed a lot of people and asked if they could help, but nobody could provide an answer.

I had met Terence Tao at the University of California, Los Angeles, (UCLA) where I had given my last talk before returning to India. We had even written a paper together back then. The next time I went to UCLA, from India, I discussed this question with Tao and somehow it got his attention. We tried a few things, but made very little progress. He asked if he could share the problem on his blog, which was super popular.

So he put it on his blog and meanwhile, I boarded my flight back to India. By the time I landed, the blog had exploded with mathematical activity. So many comments, so many approaches, so many people trying things out! The next two days were spent in what we eventually realised was a wild goose chase, but in five days the problem was solved, by six people in India, the U.S.A., Canada, and Germany (with contributions from several others) – and all of this progress and research was carried out in comments on Tao’s blog, by mathematicians most of whom had never met each other physically! And yes, we ended up proving that indeed such examples of non-abelian groups with distances cannot exist.

The original question came out of curiosity, it was a thought experiment. I was lucky that Tao got interested and put it on his blog, and the rest is history. Abelian groups and distances are among the first and most basic concepts any undergraduate student in mathematics is introduced to in college. So this may well end up being the most fundamental result in any paper of mine! I have been lucky to be part of the story.

In your view, do awards in scientific fields significantly impact the development of those fields?

If you look at lab-based sciences like biology, awards that come with grants, such as the Swarnajayanti Fellowship, would certainly help the scientists enhance their lab capabilities and hire more students. Government fellowships like NPDF, PMRF or NBHM, provided at the doctoral and postdoctoral levels, are a source of income. We certainly need labs to be flourishing and talented personnel to come in. So in those kinds of sciences certainly these recognitions would help.

Even in a theoretical field like mathematics, funding helps me travel to conferences, meet old and new experts to form collaborations, and also financially support students and postdocs as well as visitors coming to our department.

For example, when I worked at Stanford University, I co-organised a conference with my collaborators Bala and Dominique Guillot. We could gather a bunch of people and from that came collaborations. We found people with matching wavelengths and we have proved many results and published many papers together. Funding also allowed me to visit Terence Tao and that led to our collaboration on matrix positivity, as well as our PolyMath project.

In addition to these practical aspects, awards like the Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals also catch the attention of the general public and students, and hopefully inspire students to get into research and young researchers to do more creative science. Certainly I was inspired by reading about these prizes and personalities and their contributions. And hopefully, in the Indian context, the Bhatnagar Prizes do the same.

There seems to be a trend, especially after the pandemic, of few students pursuing BSc in mathematics. In some places, mathematics departments are shutting down or merging with data science departments. Should we be concerned?

It is difficult to predict what kind of paradigm shifts happen or for what reason. The pandemic came and changed the way in which we work. The internet is another example. Pre-smartphone and post-smartphone experiences are completely different. We would not have imagined groceries getting delivered at home via the internet even 10 years ago.

It is certainly true that college programmes and streams keep changing and evolving with the times. And this is the age of big data and analytics, machine learning, artificial intelligence, neural networks... So it would be natural for mathematics departments and programmes to evolve with the times, especially at a time when enrollments are dwindling. Maybe it is good, given the opportunities available.

But what happens to pure mathematics?

There are lots of places that still offer pure mathematics programmes. The IISERs were established precisely for pure sciences, just like the IITs were established for engineering. IISc is one of the places where sciences and engineering are treated on equal footing. The IITs also have very good maths faculty, and some of them have maths major programmes which see very good students too. In fact, the other mathematics Bhatnagar Prize winner this year was also in the Math Olympiads and then went to IIT Kanpur. And then there are places that offer maths/stats undergraduate degrees, like ISI and CMI. And these are just a few of the places that offer pure mathematics coursework and degrees.

It will take time to find enough teachers who are trained to teach the newer courses in data science, and maybe AI and ML. So I am sure that not every university/college is changing their BSc. mathematics to a BSc. data science degree just yet!

There is a lot of concern about the gender ratio among Bhatnagar awardees. Very few women or scientists of other genders are recognised for their work, compared to men. Your thoughts on this?

As far as specific awards go, I am too junior to be on any committees to know how it all works. But of course there is clearly a gender imbalance and this is reflective of the broader gender imbalance in sciences and mathematics going all the way down. Even now, if you look at the maths majors in IISc, there are fewer girls than boys in classes. This has to be addressed at a fundamental level. Of course, one should start at the grassroots and encourage girls to pursue science at all levels, but maybe one should also try to incentivise higher education through scholarships and other opportunities.

The SERB - POWER Research Grant is a recent government scheme specifically for women researchers, not just mathematicians but across all disciplines. Maybe in this day and age, incentivising is the way to address the issue, from the entry level to the faculty level. Another measure could be to reserve seats for female students in higher education in science and technology.

What advice would you give a school student who wants to take up mathematics as a career?

First of all, if someone is interested in maths, they should be solving problems – here, there or anywhere. I found problems not just in books but also in the newspaper. Additionally, if students want to seriously think about mathematics as a career, then they have to be able to understand what advanced mathematics looks like. Attending camps can help here. When you are in middle school, you should try to get an exposure to high school or Olympiad-level mathematics. When you're in college, you should try to do more rigorous courses or advanced courses. That is the practice here at IISc, for instance. For younger students, some of the summer camps I know are Bhaskaracharya Pratishthana in Pune as well as ‘maths circles’ in Mumbai and Bengaluru.

ILLUSTRATION: R.RAJESH

> If students want to seriously think about mathematics as a career, then they have to be able to understand what advanced mathematics looks like. Attending camps can help here

> The simplest application of maths in real life is that of mortgage – this is a big thing even here in India. Whether for a car, a house, or an expensive iPad, what you’re doing is adding up a finite geometric series

Metro services disrupted on Green Line after RRV gets jammed at Rajajinagar

Services resumed at 3.40 p.m. after the road-cum-rail vehicle was lifted off the track with the help of a crane

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A technical snag at the Rajajinagar Metro station caused inconvenience to thousands of commuters on the green line on Tuesday. Train services between Yeshwantpur station and Mantri Square - Sampige Road station were cut off after the rear wheel mechanism of a Road cum Rail Vehicle (RRV) got jammed at Rajajinagar metro station.

"The RRV after depot testing, was under mandatory trials from Peenya depot to National College Metro Station at the curve locations during non-operational hours. During the trials at Rajajinagar, the rear wheel mechanism, which is a combination for road and rail, got jammed and could not be retrieved even with the help of the other RRV," said B.L. Yashwanth Chavan, Chief Public Relations Officer, BMRCL.

This snag left many passengers stranded at Yeshwantpur and Mantri Square - Sampige Road metro stations, especially in the peak hours in the morning.

A metro train passes by the emergency recovery vehicle, which broke down between Rajajinagar and Mahakavi Kuvempu Road stations in Bengaluru on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

"I take the metro from Jalahalli to my office near Cubbon Park metro station. But after reaching the station and realising that metro services have been disrupted, I had to go home and take my car out and I got stuck in traffic in Yeshwantpur where I could see so many passengers standing cluelessly near the metro station," said Saurabh S., a resident of Jalahalli.

"Today was my worst experience travelling in metro as the train stopped at Yeshwantpur metro station and started moving in the reverse direction. No announcement was made to instruct the passengers to get down and go to the other platform. It was total chaos," said Probal Ray, a X (formerly Twitter) user.

BMRCL continued running single line operations from 6.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. to avoid inconvenience to the commuters, but huge crowds gathered at the metro stations as the frequency of trains was affected. The BMTC also ran extra buses between Yeshwantpur metro station and Majestic to help commuters amidst the disruptions on the green line.

There was also confusion at the metro stations as passengers who were issued tickets to destinations which were not accessible were being offered refunds. With no clear communication from the officials, commuters expressed their frustration. Kiran, a tourist at Mantri Square - Sampige Road metro station, said that he felt lost when his trip was unexpectedly interrupted. "I am not familiar with the metro system or stops. Getting a ticket and then being told it won't go to Yeshwantpur was confusing," he said.

Narshimha Moorthy, travelling from Majestic to Nagasandra, expressed frustration alleging indifference from metro officials at the Mantri Square -Sampige Road station. "They sit comfortably while security personnel try to help. When we ask questions, they don't have answers," he lamented.

Services resumed at 3.40 p.m. after the RRV was lifted off the track with the help of a crane. "After curtailing operations between Yeshwantpur and Mantri Square Sampige Road metro station at 2 p.m., the RRV was lifted from the track to clear the section and normalcy of train operations was restored at 3.40 p.m.," Mr Chavan said.

(With inputs from Vishal V.P.)

Decision on carpooling apps in 10 days; until then they can continue unhindered: Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amidst the confusion surrounding carpooling apps, Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy on Tuesday clarified that there was currently no ban on carpooling in Bengaluru.

The decision came after he held a meeting with various carpooling aggregators.

The aggregators, while explaining the need for carpooling in Bengaluru, also gave clarifications about the doubts over the commercial angle of these apps. The government has said that it will take a call on the apps in 10 days and the aggregators can continue operation until such time.

"We clarified that carpooling should not be considered as a commercial activity as those travelling to tech parks and other places would take the same route in their cars irrespective of people joining them. However, in commercial carpooling, the drivers actively look for people to ride in their cars," said K.N.M. Rao, CEO and co-founder, Quick Ride.

He added that people who opt to carpool would not like to simply take the ride, and hence, split the costs. He also said that there was no concept of profit with this kind of carpooling.

Autorickshaw drivers and taxi drivers had opposed the carpooling apps alleging that such services in white board vehicles would cause a dent in their businesses.

"The confusion arises due to a lack of common definition of 'carpooling'. Carpooling does help reduce traffic congestion and therefore, welcome in our city. However, the aggregator apps have a commercial feel, that is where the legal and moral dilemma begins," said Srinivas Alavilli, a public transport advocate.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 04			
RISE	06:09	SET	18:08
RISE	22:13	SET	10:40
THURSDAY, OCT. 05			
RISE	06:09	SET	18:07
RISE	23:07	SET	11:38
FRIDAY, OCT. 06			
RISE	06:09	SET	18:06
RISE	00:00	SET	12:32

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	25
Mysuru	31	23
Bengaluru	30	20

Bengaluru Today
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower is likely to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C The weather will be slight warm and humid.Night will be pleasant.Chances of light rain and thundershower at few places.

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THE HINDU
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Vijayanagara GP Members' Union writes to CM over absenteeism among schoolteachers in the district

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The Gram Panchayat Members' Union of Vijayanagara district has written a letter to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to take appropriate action against government school teachers who are not attending school on time and not conducting classes properly during school hours.

S. Lakshman, president of the union, who wrote the letter on September 12, said, "Teachers in government schools are not providing quality education to children. Biometric attendance system should be made mandatory for teachers in government schools."

"Despite restrictions on using mobile phones during school hours by the Department of School Education and Literacy, teachers are constantly talking on mobile phones, using internet and engaging in social media during school hours and teaching time," the union has alleged.

Due to the negligence of teachers, children walk out of the school during the school hours, they added.

Stating that this is affecting the quality of education in government schools, the union has sought biometric attendance system for government school teachers apart from monthly tests, as well as assessing the performance of teachers on the basis of results.

The headmaster of a government high school in Mandya acknowledged that this is a problem elsewhere too. "It is true that many teachers are irregular to the classes and engaging in other activities instead of teaching students," he said.

Biometric attendance

Umesh G. Gangavadi, State president of School Development and Monitoring Committee echoed similar opinions. "There are also reports in some schools that regular teachers are absenting themselves and handing over classes to guest teachers. Even though teachers are doing such unethical things, the department officials are not initiating action against them," he said.

"We urge the Principal Secretary and Commissioner of the department to ensure that the officials regularly inspect the schools and take strict action against the guilty teachers. In addition, measures will be taken by SDMC to compulsorily visit schools, including in rural areas."

Post Graduate Programme for Executives for Visionary Leadership in Manufacturing (PGPEX – VLM)
(A joint initiative of IIM Calcutta, IIT Kanpur & IIT Madras under the aegis of DIPP & MoE, GOI)
ADMISSION FOR 18TH BATCH COMMENCING FROM APRIL 2024
GRADUATE ENGINEERS with First Division/First Class marks from Class X onwards with a minimum of 4.5 years to a maximum of 10 years of work experience in manufacturing, engineering, and related sectors. There is no maximum work experience requirement for the sponsored candidates. The last date to submit a duly filled and signed online application along with the application fee of ₹4,000 is **Monday, October 30, 2023.** The online application portal link is **https://doms.iitm.ac.in/vlm**
For further queries, call **+91 44 2257 4570** or email to **vlm@smail.iitm.ac.in**
PGPEX VLM- IIM Calcutta, IIT Kanpur & IIT Madras XPGPEX_VLM

Sorry to note that govt. did not respond to court's notice on visually-challenged person's plea even after a year: HC

Shreyas had filed the petition seeking audio alert system in public transport corporation buses

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday said it was sorry to note that the State government and its public transport corporations did not bother to respond to a PIL petition, filed by a 27-year-old visually-challenged person, even after a year since the court issued notice to the authorities on the petitioner's grievance.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice Krishna S. Dixit made these observations during the hearing of the petition filed by N. Shreyas, the visually-challenged lawyer.

Personally argued case

The petitioner, who is personally arguing his petition, had sought a direction to the authorities to provide audio-alerts/voice-based announcement system in public transport buses in the State, Bengaluru city, in particular.

The petitioner sought the audio alert system as visually-challenged persons were not able to know the stops while travelling by buses.

He sought the audio alert system as visually-challenged persons were not be able to know the destination or the stops while travelling in the buses.

Mr. Shreyas has pointed out that Namma Metro had voice-based alerts and a similar facility should be provided in buses owned by the Karnataka State Transport Corporation and the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation.

The petitioner also said that the audio alert system was introduced in some BMTC buses a few years ago and later the facility was discontinued, while also bringing to the notice of the court that many public transport buses in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Maharashtra had the facility of audio alert.

The petitioner told the court that though usually conductors of the buses assist persons with disabilities, they would be helpless during rush hours or when the bus is overcrowded.

"There cannot be any dispute that the petition raises an important social issue and the authorities cannot treat the petition as an adversary litigation," the Bench pointed out.

The court would be happy if the authorities come up with certain other suggestions, which would become role model to other States to assist the visually-challenged persons, in addition to take a proper and positive step to redress the grievance raised by the petitioner on behalf of visually-challenged persons, the Bench said, while adjourning further hearing.

THE HINDU
OPPORTUNITIES

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The increase in India's coal production in September

15.8 in percentage. India's coal output increased to 67.21 million tonnes in September from 58.04 MT in the year-ago period, as per Coal Ministry. Coal India Ltd produced 51.44 MT of coal last month. PTI

Indian economy's growth forecast for this fiscal year

6.3 in percentage. The World Bank retained India's growth forecast for the financial year 2023-24 on the back of robust services activities, despite global headwinds. PTI

Reservation for EWS in judicial services, law colleges in Bihar

10 in percentage. The decision to give reservations for the economically weaker sections (EWS) was taken by the Bihar government at a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. PTI

The chickens culled to contain bird flu in South Africa

2.5 in million. About 2.05 lakh chickens died from bird flu in 60 separate outbreaks caused by two separate strains of avian influenza across the country, the government informed. AP

Dolphins found dead in Amazon due to temperature rise

100 Along with dolphins, thousands of fish have died in the Brazilian Amazon rainforest in the past week, as the region grapples with a severe drought. AP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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The shutdown of the Afghan embassy

Why has the embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan announced its closure? Are the consulates of Afghanistan also shutting down? What is the current state of the relationship between India and Taliban-ruled Afghanistan?

EXPLAINER

Kallol Bhattacherjee

The story so far:

On September 30, a statement carrying the seal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan announced the closure of the Embassy of Afghanistan in Delhi. The announcement had been anticipated for a while, especially after a report which stated that a letter had been sent from the mission to the Ministry of External Affairs informing it of the impending closure. In its official communication, the Embassy of Afghanistan blamed multiple factors including lack of cooperation from the Government of India and a lack of resources to operate any further. Furthermore, the embassy has urged the Indian government to fly the flag of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan over embassy premises. It has also asked New Delhi to hand over the mission to a "legitimate government" of Afghanistan sometime in the future.

Is this a turning point for Afghanistan-India relations?

The embassy represented the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan that was deposed through a military campaign by the Taliban on August 15, 2021. The Taliban fighters who quickly took over all the major cities and infrastructure of the country, as the U.S. forces carried out a messy withdrawal, were not recognised by India as de facto rulers. With the displacement of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the embassy of Afghanistan in New Delhi had begun to work as a "stateless mission" as it did not represent the current rulers of Kabul, that is the Taliban, with whom India has no diplomatic relationship. In effect, the embassy of Afghanistan was performing a ceremonial or a symbolic role, helping out Afghan citizens and travellers in India deal with the difficulties they have been facing because of the lack of diplomatic relations between the two countries. The mission had stopped representing an active state since August 2021 and was working as a coordinating agency. Moreover, the ambassador of the previous regime of President Ashraf Ghani, Farid Mamundzay, left India and has not been seen for over three months.

Total shutdown: The embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in New Delhi, September 29. AFP

Will the move affect travel and trade between Afghanistan and India?

Afghanistan has traditionally maintained an embassy in Delhi and two consulates in Hyderabad and Mumbai. The consulates in Hyderabad and Mumbai have not shut down and Zakia Wardak, the Consul General of Afghanistan (Islamic Republic) has come out with a statement defying the embassy's announcement to close down the mission, stating that the consulate will continue to function as part of a "solemn commitment" towards thousands of Afghan students, refugees and traders. The announcement of the embassy of Afghanistan is expected to trigger confusion among Afghans in India but the consulates are expected to help them.

Does this mean that India and Afghanistan have no relations?

Despite the closure of the embassy in Delhi, India and Afghanistan are continuing engagement with each other in a curious way. India has been maintaining a "technical team" in Kabul where the staff provides visas to Afghan traders and travellers to India. There are two weekly flights that carry Afghan citizens and items to India. India uses the flights while sending humanitarian assistance to the Afghan people. That apart, some Indian goods are also entering Afghanistan through other countries like Iran and the UAE.

However, these are indicative of the informal nature of the relationship as formal diplomatic ties are unable to take off, because India refuses to recognise Taliban citing human rights abuses by the regime.

Will India and the Taliban ever establish formal ties?

India has not recognised Taliban formally but Indian diplomats have been engaged with the Taliban since the immediate aftermath of the fall of Kabul in August 2021. Indian diplomats have met the Taliban's representatives in multiple locations under multilateral initiatives like the recent Moscow format dialogue. On September 29, India sent a representative to Kazan, Tatarstan in Russia to engage with the Taliban under the Moscow format dialogue. That apart, Taliban is quickly gaining international recognition from rival powers like China which sent a new ambassador to Kabul in September. With Iran, Pakistan, the UAE, Russia, Qatar and China warming ties with the Taliban, there is obvious pressure on India to reconsider its position on the Taliban. The Taliban has been urging India to support it with its economic revitalisation through projects like electricity generation and road building works. India, however, has not yet indicated that it will review its position on the Taliban. The embassy of Afghanistan in Delhi is one of the oldest diplomatic addresses in the capital and India has never allowed the Taliban to operate from that address, even when it governed Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001.

THE GIST

- On September 30, a statement carrying the seal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan announced the closure of the Embassy of Afghanistan in Delhi.
- The consulates in Hyderabad and Mumbai have not shut down. The consulates will continue to function as part of a "solemn commitment" towards thousands of Afghan students, refugees and traders.
- The Taliban has been urging India to support it with its economic revitalisation through projects like electricity generation and road building works. India, however, has not yet indicated that it will review its position on the Taliban.

How has Nagorno-Karabakh standoff ended?

What is the history of the conflict over the region between Armenia and Azerbaijan? Why did hundreds of local Armenians flee the area? What has been Turkey's role in the region?

Priyali Prakash

The story so far:

On September 20, Azerbaijan claimed full control over the contentious Nagorno-Karabakh region after local forces, mostly Armenians, agreed to disarm and disband. Hundreds of local Armenians fled the area overnight, fearing ethnic cleansing by Azerbaijan. While the disputed region is home to a majority population of ethnic Armenians and an Azeri minority, it is internationally recognised as a part of Azerbaijan.

What happened?

A fresh round of violence broke out in September when Azerbaijan launched an attack against ethnic Armenian forces in Nagorno-Karabakh. The fighting lasted one day, and a ceasefire was announced a day later. In a statement, U.S. State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said that the Secretary of State Antony Blinken spoke with the Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and expressed "deep concern for the ethnic Armenian population" in the disputed region.

What is the history of the conflict?

Nagorno-Karabakh is located within the international borders of Azerbaijan. It is in the South Caucasus region between eastern Europe and western Asia, spanning the southern part of the Caucasus mountains that roughly includes modern-day Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia.

The conflict between Azeris and Armenians goes back a century, when the Ottomans attacked the South Caucasus during World War I with the help of Azeris. They targeted ethnic Armenians during this attack, and the conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia descended into a full-blown war in 1920. This war incorporated the region into the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic.

Soon after, both countries became part of the Soviet Republic, and Nagorno-Karabakh was made an autonomous Oblast (administrative region) in Azerbaijan's territory. When the Soviet Union disintegrated in 1991, full-scale fighting again broke out between the countries as Armenian rebels declared Nagorno-Karabakh an independent territory. The war lasted till 1994 and killed around 30,000 people.

In 1994, Azerbaijan and Armenia entered a ceasefire brokered by Russia, but international borders for the countries were not demarcated.

A four-day war again broke out between the two countries in 2016, with no resolution being arrived at.

What happened in 2020?

In 2020, Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev launched an offensive to take Nagorno-Karabakh back, leading the country into a fierce war with Armenia that lasted six weeks and killed more than 2,000 people. The Azeri forces attacked Armenian defences and took back 40% of Nagorno-Karabakh. Azerbaijan was backed by Turkey, and while Armenia's ally Russia did little to support Armenia, it helped broker a ceasefire.

However, despite the ceasefire, Azerbaijan did not give up attempts to capture Nagorno-Karabakh. In December 2022, it blockaded the Lachin Corridor, the main road connecting Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia and the rest of the world, adding to the economic misery of the region. The road was blocked under the pretext of environmental concerns.

How did Azerbaijan capture the area?

Experts believe that Turkey had a big role to play in the latest developments in the Nagorno-Karabakh region. Turkey, however, denied any direct involvement in Azerbaijan's offensive, *Reuters* reported, although it is a political and military supporter of Azerbaijan.

Russia's absence in the Caucasus is owed to its war in Ukraine. As retaliation for Russia's lack of help over the last few years, Armenia voted to join the International Criminal Court (ICC) despite Russia's warnings (the ICC has issued a warrant for the arrest of Russian President Vladimir Putin). Over 1,00,000 ethnic Armenians from Nagorno-Karabakh, have fled to Armenia in the last one week, the WHO estimates. The exodus has triggered a massive humanitarian crisis.

(With inputs from agencies)

THE GIST

- On September 20, Azerbaijan claimed full control over the contentious Nagorno-Karabakh region after local forces, mostly Armenians, agreed to disarm and disband.
- Nagorno-Karabakh is located within the international borders of Azerbaijan. It is in the South Caucasus region between eastern Europe and western Asia.
- Over 1,00,000 ethnic Armenians from Nagorno-Karabakh have fled to neighbouring Armenia in the last one week.

INBRIEF

BJP accuses govt. of trying to threaten RTI activists

The Opposition BJP on Tuesday alleged that the Congress government was trying to threaten the RTI activists in the State to cover up its alleged scams.

Addressing a press conference in Bengaluru, BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan took exception to the State government's reported move to prepare a list of RTI activists and to get details about them. He alleged that the government was trying to defeat the RTI Act's intention itself through the moves to keep a tab on their movement.

44 new services rolled out at Bapuji Seva Kendras

To enable rural citizens to avail utility services under one roof, the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (RDPR) Department has rolled out 44 additional services at the Bapuji Seva Kendras in gram panchayats. The services available at Atalji Janasnehi Centers in Nadakacheris will now be provided at Bapuji Seva Kendras at GPs. These are in addition to the existing 28 other utility services. Along with these, people can also avail of the Aadhaar-based services provided by the departments of labour, health, family welfare, power, women and child welfare.

₹1.5 lakh to each district to hold Valmiki Jayanti on Oct. 28

B. Nagendra

Youth Empowerment, Sports and Scheduled Tribe Welfare Minister B. Nagendra on Tuesday said Valmiki Jayanti will be celebrated on a grand scale across the State on October 28. It will be conducted at the Banquet Hall of the Vidhana Soudha and at all district headquarters. Speaking to reporters after a meeting on programmes to mark Valmiki Jayanti, Mr. Nagendra said a sum of ₹1.5 lakh would be given to each district for various programmes. The Valmiki award would be given to one person from each division in the State.

Caste census: Report expected in Nov. but unlikely to be publicised before LS polls

Organisations of Veerashaivas and Vokkaligas, the dominant communities opposed to the census report, to meet to decide on course of action

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

A file photo of members of backward classes communities seeking the release of the caste census report in Gadag. After the Bihar government publicised its caste survey data, the pressure is mounting on the Siddaramaiah-led Congress government to accept the census report.

Amid clamour to publicise the Socio-Economic and Education Survey (popularly called Caste Census) conducted by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes in 2015-2016, dominant caste groups are coming together to oppose the report, which is likely to be submitted in November this year. The report, even if submitted in November, according to government sources, is unlikely to be made public before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Commission Chairman Jayaprakash Hegde, whose tenure is set to end in November, told *The Hindu* that the commission will submit the report by November end, and that the final work on the report is currently under way. "All the data is ready and the preparation of a report/synopsis is currently being done. The report will be submitted at the end of November," he said.

Mounting pressure

Pressure is mounting on the Siddaramaiah-led Congress government to accept the census report after the Bihar government publicised similar data. The Congress is demanding a similar nation-wide exercise.

However, while a top government source said that it is unlikely that the report will be published before the Parliamentary polls, the two dominant land owning caste groups – Lingayats/Veerashaivas and Vokkaligas whose population according to the leaked data is pegged at 14% and 11%, respectively – are opposed to it. The commission, then led by H. Kantharaj, had conducted the survey in 2015-16. The two communities claim that their numbers are far higher than what the leaked data from the report indicated.

The government had spent ₹162 crore on the census exercise. Mr. Siddaramaiah himself on multiple occasions before and soon after Assembly elections announced that his government will accept the report. While the report was ready around the end of Mr. Siddaramaiah's previous tenure in 2018, three Chief Ministers since then - H.D. Kumaraswamy, B.S. Yediyurappa and Basavaraj Bommai - had stayed away from accepting the report that is likely to churn political alignments in the State.

Bringing pressure on the government, senior Congress leader B.K. Hariprasad, who is learnt to be disgruntled after being ignored for the Cabinet berth, on Tuesday said, "Our leader Rahul Gandhi has raised voice on the injustice meted out to Backward Classes. Karnataka - like Bihar - should show the heart to release the census report that is ready."

Joint meeting shortly

Meanwhile, a joint meeting of representatives from Akhila Bharatha Veerashaiava Mahasabha and Vokkaliga Misalathi (Reservation) Horata Samithi, backed by the four seers of the community and Vokkaliga Sangha, is set to meet shortly. The government is also under pressure from legislators and Ministers from the two dominant communities to not act on the report as it could undermine the pivotal places the communities have held in Karnataka's politics.

Veerashaiva Mahasabha Secretary H.M. Renuka Prasanna said that the meeting of Central and State committee office-bearers in Davangere on October 6 will discuss the census issue. "The Mahasabha and the Vokkaliga Horata Samithi had held three joint meetings in 2016 after which a joint memorandum had been submitted to the government against the census. How can the community numbers go down in 2015 in comparison with data collected by Chinnappa Reddy and Havanur Commissions," he asked.

Echoing similar sentiments, Horata Samithi president G.N. Srikantaiah said that they had written to the government to reject the report. "The enumerators did not go door to door. The census has tried to divide the community by counting people under 45 different sub-castes. We are not opposed to a new census if done scientifically," he said. The samithi has been demanding that the legislators and Ministers from the community speak up against the report, he added.

Report will be released 'when time comes': Ministers

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Welcoming the release of the findings of the caste survey by the Bihar government, Minister for Backward Classes Shivaraj Tangadagi and Minister for Social Welfare H.C. Mahadevappa said the caste census data conducted in Karnataka too will be released at an appropriate time.

Fielding reporters' queries in Mysuru on Tuesday, Mr. Tangadagi said a survey had been carried out to gather information about the social, educational and economic status of people during Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's previous tenure at the helm of affairs in the State. "It (caste census report) will be released when the time comes," he said responding to queries from reporters. When asked if there was any pressure on the government against releasing the report on the survey because of its contents, Mr. Tangadagi said, "Nobody has seen the report. So, why will there be opposition or pressure against the report?"

Rayaraddi contradicts Shamanur's charge on 'raw deal' to Lingayats

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU/MYSURU

Senior Congress leader and MLA Basavaraj Rayaraddi on Tuesday lashed out at veteran party leader and All India Veerashaiva Mahasabha president Shamanur Shivashankarappa for demanding postings of officials on the basis of caste.

Speaking to reporters here, former Minister Mr. Rayaraddi said MLAs can be made Ministers for providing representation to each caste/community as well as regional representation. But seeking postings of government officials on the basis of caste was totally unjustified and Mr. Shivashankarappa was wrong in making such demands, he said.

Mr. Rayaraddi also condemned BJP leader and former Chief Minister B.S. Yeddiyurappa's statement supporting Mr. Shivashankarappa on the alleged neglect of officials belonging to the Veerashaiva-Lingayats in the postings of the executive category. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was not against the Lingayat community and Mr. Shivashankarappa's demand for postings of officials on the basis of caste was not a good sign for ensuring administrative efficiency, Mr. Rayaraddi said.

Last week, Mr. Shivashankarappa, 92, MLA, had set off speculation by stating that that bureaucrats from the Lingayat community have been getting a 'raw deal' in postings in the Congress government.

Meanwhile, speaking in Mysuru, Minister for Social Welfare H.C. Mahadevappa and Minister for Backward Classes, Kannada and Culture Shivaraj Tangadagi also ruled out the possibility of the State government neglecting Lingayats.

Mr. Mahadevappa said the decisions on posting of officials are not taken on a caste basis. He said Mr. Shivashankarappa, who heads the All-India Veershaiva Mahasabha, may have received a complaint from somebody, who had not got a post they had sought.

Shepherds' gathering

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at a convention organised by Shepherds India International in Belagavi on Tuesday. P.K. BADIGER

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer-2 (BMICP) & Bengaluru Rural, No.14/3, CFC Building, Maharshi Aravinda Bhavana, 1st Floor, Nrupatunga Road, Bengaluru-560001

No.: KIADB/LAQ/4360/2023-24 Date: 29.09.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the general public and related Land's Khatedars/Anubhavdars/interested people that total 12-18 Kharabu 0-05 remaining 12-13 Acres area of the lands with the below mentioned Survey Numbers in Haadihosahalli and Maddenahalli Villages, Thyamagondlu Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, for the purpose of establishment of road connection to lands acquired for M.M.L.P. Project, Initial Notification No.: CI 242 SPQ (E) 2020 Dated 23.08.2023 as per State Gazette publication dated 29.08.2023 has been published in Karnataka State Gazette Special Issue Part-3 page nos. from 6492to 6500. It was informed that if there are any objections to this Land Acquisition Process, within 30 days from the date of publication in State Gazette, objections should be submitted in writing, in person or through authorized person to Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer – 2 (BMICP) and Bengaluru Rural, No. 14/3, C.F.C. Building, Maharshi Aravinda Bhavan, 1st Floor, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru – 560001. Details of the Lands for Acquisition are as below.

Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Extent		
		Total A-Gts	Kharab A-Gts	Remaining A-Gs
1	2	3	4	5
	Village: Haadihosahalli Hobli: Thyamagondlu Taluk: Nelamangala District: Bengaluru Rural			
1	Part of 2	0-01½	-	0-01½
2	Part of 3/2A1	1-06	0-01	1-05
3	Part of 3/2A2	1-34	0-02	1-32
4	Part of 3/3	0-29	-	0-29
5	3/4	0-30.12	0-02	0-28.12
6	3/5	0-35.12	-	0-35.12
7	Part of 4	0-00½	-	0-00½
8	41/1	2-14	-	2-14
9	41/2	1-08	-	1-08
10	41/3	1-08	-	1-08
11	41/4	1-08	-	1-08
12	Part of 43/1	0-03½	-	0-03½
13	Part of 43/2	0-02	-	0-02
14	Part of 48/2	0-01½	-	0-01½
15	Part of 48/3	0-01	-	0-01
16	Part of 48/4	0-01	-	0-01
17	Part of 48/5	0-01½	-	0-01½
18	Part of 49/1	0-01½	-	0-01½
19	Part of 49/2	0-00½	-	0-00½
20	Part of 49/3	0-01	-	0-01
	Total	11-29	0-05	11-24
	Village: Maddenahalli Hobli: Thyamagondlu Taluk: Nelamangala District: Bengaluru Rural			
1	Part of 27/2A1	0-24	-	0-24
2	Part of 27/2A2	0-05	-	0-05
	Total	0-29	-	0-29

It is hereby informed to the Khathedars/Anubhavadars/Interested persons of the above mentioned Lands that under Karnataka Industrial Area Development Act 1966 Section 28 (2) Information Notices were issued to the Notified Khathedars/ Anubhavadars and sent by Registered Post. Addresses of some of the Land Owners were not found and the postal department has sent back the envelopes with remarks to this Office. Khathedars/ Anubhavadars of the above mentioned Lands should consider this Notification as Information Notice under Karnataka Industrial Area Development Act 1966 Section 28 (2).

It is informed that if there are any objections to this Land Acquisition Process, within 30 days from the date of publication in State Gazette, objections should be submitted in writing, in person or through authorized person with necessary documents to this office. It is brought to the knowledge of the public that objections received after the time period will not be considered. The enquiry of the above mentioned lands of Haadihosahalli and Maddenahalli Villages has been fixed on **05.10.2023 at 11.00 AM** at Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer-2, BMICP, KIADB, No. 14/3, Aravinda Bhavan, 1st Floor, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru- 560001. Submissions should be made on this date with Documents in writing or in person.

Sd/- Special Land Acquisition Officer-2, KIADB (BMICP) and Bengaluru Rural.
DIPR/DD-C.P/1526/KSMCA/2023-24

Krypton Solutions may invest ₹832 crore in Mysuru, Chamarajanagar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

M.B. Patil

Texas-based Krypton Solutions, that offers service design, rapid prototyping and low/medium volume turnkey contract manufacturing services, may invest $100 million (₹832 crore) in Mysuru and Chamarajanagar to set up Printed Circuit Board (PCB) fabrication units, said a statement from the State government.

M.B. Patil, Minister for Large & Medium Industries & Infrastructure Development, who is leading a business delegation to the U.S., on Monday met officials of Texas Instruments, Krypton Solutions, and ERP Logic (ERPL), a SAP cloud-based solutions firm for exploring increased investments in Karnataka.

The government delegation toured Krypton's 40,000 sq. feet facility while it visited Texas Instruments' 300-mm wafer fab manufacturing site. These two companies are part of the Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) industry and already have a sizable presence in the State.

Krypton Solutions has already completed preliminary discussions with the government to invest in Bommasandra for a new PCB facility in Karnataka.

The meeting with Texas Instruments also discussed Research and Development for Analog and Embedded Semiconductors, with a potential exploration in the Whitefield semiconductor park.

Jagrita Nagarikaru condemns action against news portal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Jagrita Nagarikaru, Karnataka, a forum of progressive intellectuals and activists, have expressed shock over police action against those associated with *NewsClick* portal on Tuesday and said that "such acts constitute a conspiracy to silence the voices of individuals who dissent."

In a release, members of the forum said, "The media is the watchdog of democracy. Its function is to perform its responsibilities in a free, autonomous and fearless environment. Such acts of the Union government attempting to suppress this should be considered an attempt to destroy democratic values. In this background, the Jagrita Nagarikaru Karnataka severely condemns this attack on journalists and social activists by the police. It demands that such witchhunts be stopped forthwith. It also urges that the draconian UAPA which seeks to destroy the 'Freedom of Expression' and is weaponised to suppress dissenting opinions should be immediately withdrawn."

Among the signatories are K. Marulasiddappa, G. Ramakrishna, S.G. Siddaramaiah, Vijaya, Rajendra Chenni, Banjagere Jayaprakash, B. Sripada Bhat, K.S. Vimala, Meenakshi Bali, N. Gayathri, T.Surendra Rao, Vasundhara Bhupathi and N.K. Vasanthraj.

The Delhi police on Tuesday sealed the office of *NewsClick* in connection with its probe into a case filed under the anti-terror law UAPA following allegations that it received money for pro-China propaganda.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

R. LAKSHMI (91)
W/o Late N. RANGARAJAN
Attained Acharyan Thiruvadi on 03.10.2023 at Chennai.
Deeply mourned by
Family and Friends
Aravind & Jayashree. 9884133513

REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of

JAYALAXMI SRINIVASAN
4th October, 2021
Loving Wife, Mother & Grandmother
You loved your family with all your heart. You gave your grandchildren lots of sweets and great happiness. Your piety, devotion and love inspires us always.
R. Srinivasan (**Husband**),
Rajeshwari Srinivasan (**Daughter**),
Munir Mohanty (**Son-in-law**),
Saahir Mohanty (**Grandson**),
Anand Srinivasan (**Son**),
Kate Shoemaker (**Daughter-in-law**),
Vinaya Anand (**Grand-daughter**),
Ved Anand (**Grandson**),
Family & friends.

KEYWORD

Circular migration: looking at both sides of the debate

In India, internal migration, which is migration within a particular country or State, has almost always been circular. With rapid industrialisation, there has been a huge flow of migrants from rural areas to urban cities

Joan Sony Cherian

Circular migration is a repetitive form of migration wherein people move to another place (the destination country) and back (country of origin) according to the availability of employment. This effectively means that instead of migrating permanently or temporarily (moving for a period of time to complete any contract-based labour) to another location, people move to different locations for a brief period of time when work is available. It is a phenomenon mostly among low-income groups who migrate to avail of seasonally available jobs in another country, city, place etc.

The definition

Circular migration became quite popular in the 60s and 70s with the advent of globalisation and development. Increased access to modern forms of transport and communication, social networks and the growth of multinational corporations have aided the advent of circular migration. However, only recently has the phenomenon been given its due as the seasonal movement of migrants was not properly documented or was boxed along with short-term or temporary migration. Yet, how exactly is circular migration different from other forms of migration?

According to Philippe Fargues, migration can defined as circular if it meets the following criteria – there is a temporary residence in the destination location , there is the possibility of multiple entries into the destination country, there is freedom of movement between the country of origin and the country of destination during the period of residence, there is a legal right to stay in the destination country, there is protection of migrants' rights, and if there is a healthy demand for temporary labour in the destination country.

But still some doubts remain. How many times does a migrant have to move between countries to be called a circular migrant? As per the report on measuring circular migration by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Task Force, one is called a circular migrant if you have completed at least 'two loops' between two countries. Consider country A and B. If you move from A to B and back to A, then you are a return migrant. You had some work, you finished it and now you are back. If you move from A to B to A and then again to B, you have completed two loops between two countries and can be considered a circular migrant. This means you have travelled between your destination and origin country at least two times.

This can become more complicated if more than two countries are involved. Consider one more country C. If you move from A to B then back to A and then to C and back to A, you would be a circular migrant as per country A (as you completed two loops) but not for countries B and C. They might classify you as a temporary, short-term or return migrant.

In short, if your primary destination is the country of origin and if you move periodically between two countries for purposes of economic advancement such as employment, business etc., you can be considered a circular migrant.

GETTY IMAGES

As public policy

With the increasing fluid movement of people, policy around migration is one of the biggest debates in the world. The movement of citizens from the Global South to the West in search of more employment opportunities or a better standard of living creates brain drain for their origin countries and competition for the citizens of the destination countries. Similarly, the flow of people moving from rural areas to more urban areas of the same country, results in the breakdown of infrastructure and agrarian stagnation. Therefore, migration of any kind has become a policy hazard.

However, circular migration is now seen as the best way forward, as needs of development and individual economic advancement can be balanced out. It is seen as a balanced migration method which looks at migration not only from the point of view of the receiving country but also of the sending nation. For the country of origin, migration, especially international migration, is beneficial due to the flow of remittances which will boost and aid the domestic economy. The flow of foreign capital will enhance the economy ensuring more infrastructure, more jobs and by association, a better standard of living. However, large-scale transnational migration will also lead to brain drain, wherein the most talented people of your country will use their intellect and innovation for the advancement of another country.

From the perspective of the host countries, especially those of the West, a lesser population and a higher access to education has resulted in a large dearth of low-income low-skill jobs which migrants have been able to fill. However, the influx of migrants have caused a wide range of anxieties and cultural conflicts in the host populations with most of them now calling for restrictions and outright ban on migration.

Circular migration aims to quell all these fears. The negative effects of brain drain will reduce and a sort of brain circulation will be encouraged, wherein the individual can use his talents in both countries and still contribute to remittances. Most importantly as Ronald Skeldon puts it in his paper, 'Managing migration for development: is circular migration the answer?', "circular migration offers a way out to the governments of destination countries as migrants will circulate back to their home areas. Labour can be introduced to undertake essential functions but it will not remain and become a permanent part of the population." This way, he says, circular migration can be "sold" to the populations of the host countries with the claim that these labourers will eventually go home.

Circular migration within India

In India, internal migration, which is migration within a particular country or State, has almost always been circular. With the advent of jobs in the manufacturing, construction and services sector, there has been a huge flow of migrants from rural areas to urban cities. Between 2004-2005 and 2011-2012, the construction sector witnessed one of the largest net increases in employment for all workers, specifically for rural males. This has led to rural populations and their economy dwindling and urban spaces, while booming, witnessing infrastructural collapse as they are unable to properly house incoming populations.

In India, the uneven development post-liberalisation, has led to a lot of inter-State migration, with States like West Bengal, Odisha and Bihar having some of the highest rates of out-migration. Initially, while most of the migration was to Delhi, nowadays it has increased to southern States as well. Sudipta Sarkar and Deepak. K. Mishra take a closer look at the circular migration of rural males of West Bengal in a 2020 paper published in *Sage Journals*. They state that most of the rural migrants were occupied in agricultural jobs in their origin States; and when they migrated a majority of them were engaged in low-skill jobs. The positive outcomes of such inter-State migration include increased access to higher paying jobs when compared to origin States (as per Sarkar and Mishra, a daily wage labourer in West Bengal gets ₹150-180 per day, while in Kerala they would get somewhere between ₹260-380), better household welfare due to remittances, ease of mobility etc. Some reports have even stated how women get more autonomy and decision-making power in the family due to the absence of men who migrate.

However, in such migration, especially to southern States where the language barrier is a big obstacle, rural circular migrants are often at the mercy of middlemen or brokers. They are made to work in unhygienic and unsafe conditions with little to no protective equipment. They are routinely exploited and suffer significant 'unfreedoms' in host States. Additionally, indigenous wage groups and unions resent these migrants as they are seen as taking away their jobs by agreeing to work for lower wages. The study also says that this kind of migration is merely subsistence migration – it's the bare minimum. The migrants are able to barely provide for themselves and their families, with no scope for further asset creation or savings. There is also a certain precarity associated with these jobs as they are seasonal and often irregular. A lack of jobs in the host States means that they will either have to go back home or look for work in other urban cities. This precarity was on clear display during the pandemic in 2020 when migrants en-masse started walking back to their home towns when a lockdown was announced.

At the end of the day, as Amrita Dutta in her paper, 'Circular Migration and Precarity: Perspectives from Rural Bihar', says "in destination areas, rural or urban, circular migrants remain at the margins of physical, social, cultural, and political spaces." It is high time that States start actively formulating policy to understand the extent of circular migration. While some States like Kerala have announced health insurance schemes for migrant workers (Awaz Health scheme), there needs to be more effort to ensure migrants rights. The precarity of workers needs to be addressed and there should be more efforts to integrate them in the destination States.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Sir, Ms. Suhashini Tagore, Burdwan, wants to know what a 'split infinitive' is."

"In English, 'to help', 'to go', 'to ask' are infinitives. To + the basic form of a verb is called an infinitive. It is a to + infinitive. There is another kind of infinitive. It is a bare infinitive. It is without 'to'. Examples: *He can go. He may come. You must read*. We are concerned here with the infinitive that can be split. That is, with the to + infinitive. In the sentence 'His purpose was to really make the scheme a success', 'to help' is an infinitive. In between 'to' and 'help', you have 'really'. So the infinitive 'to + help' has been split. That is 'really' has separated 'to' from 'help'. In Latin, the infinitive is one word and hence there is no possibility of splitting the infinitive. Some English grammarians feel that in English also the infinitive should be treated as one unit and remain unsplit. In English you can split the infinitive so long as it aids in clarity. Take this sentence: 'His purpose was to really make the scheme a success'. Here 'really' intensifies the meaning of 'make'. If you don't split the infinitive, the sentence will be 'His purpose was really to make the scheme a success'. Here the meaning would be 'His real purpose was'. So there is a change in meaning. An infinitive can be split for a desired effect. It is wrong to say that an infinitive should not ever be split. Here are some sentences where the split infinitive can be justified.

He ought to seriously consider it.
He wasn't able to even move his fingers.
You ought to at least try.
He was asked to merely explain the reasons for his action.

Fowler says in his Dictionary of Modern English Usage; 'The English-speaking world may be divided into (a) those who neither know nor care what a split infinitive is; (b) those who do not know, but care very much; (c) those who know and condemn; (d) those who know and approve; (e) those who know and distinguish... Those who neither know nor care are the vast majority, and are a happy folk, to be envied by most of the minority classes'."

"Sir, Mr. Madhusudan wants to know the meaning of the idiom 'to produce a rabbit out of a hat'."

"It means 'to produce unexpectedly an answer or solution, etc., when success appears impossible or the situation seems hopeless'. This refers to the magician's trick of pulling a rabbit out of a hat.

You can depend on James to pull a rabbit out of a hat."

"Sir, is it true that the word 'rabbit' is used to mean a poor player?"

"Yes. It is used in British English to mean a poor player of a game, specially tennis. A poor tennis player is a rabbit."

"Sir, is it 'I have a headache' or 'I have headache'."

"It is 'I have a headache', the indefinite article 'a' must be used with 'headache', 'fever', 'temperature', 'cold'.

He has a fever.
He has a temperature.
He is running a temperature.
I have a bad cold.

But 'catch cold' is a fixed expression. So don't say 'catch a cold'."

Published in The Hindu on July 25, 1989.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

World Animal Day, celebrated every year on October 4, is a call for action for animal rights. A quiz on some animals found in India

Radhika Santhanam

QUESTION 1

This is the official animal of Guwahati and it is essentially blind. It is listed as endangered in the IUCN Red List. Its name contains the name of India's longest river. Name this animal.

QUESTION 2

This large animal survives in the wild only in India. There has been a proposal to introduce this animal in the Kuno National Park. This animal can be found on the state emblem. Which animal is this?

QUESTION 3

India's national reptile is venomous but also reportedly timid. It is the sole member of the genes Ophiophagus. The female builds a nest with leaves before she lays her eggs. What reptile is this?

QUESTION 4

This is the smallest and fastest of all apes. It is found in north-east India. It has strong family bonds. It is facing a threat primarily from the cutting of trees for infrastructure projects. Name this ape, the only one to be found in India.

QUESTION 5

In which protected area in India has the tiger adapted to live in a mangrove ecosystem?

Visual question:

It is because of this man, a patron of animals, that we celebrate World Animal Day. His name is also the name of the head of the Catholic Church and the Bishop of Rome. Name him.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:

1. This institution chooses the Nobel Peace Prize winner. **Ans: The Norwegian Parliament (Storting)**
2. This category has never had three laureates in a year. **Ans: Literature**
3. This is the only person to have been awarded two unshared Nobel Prizes. **Ans: Linus Pauling in 1954 (Chemistry) and 1962 (Peace)**
4. This distinction shared by Dag Hammarskjöld and Erik Axel Karlfeldt cannot occur again. **Ans: Awarded the prize posthumously. Post 1974, as per the statutes of the Nobel Foundation, a prize cannot be awarded posthumously, unless the laureate has passed away after the announcement.**
5. Jan Tinbergen and Nikolaas Tinbergen won the prize in these categories. **Ans: Jan Tinbergen in Economics and Nikolaas Tinbergen in Physiology**
6. This person hands over the prize to the laureates. **Ans: The King of Sweden and in the case of the Peace Prize, the Chairman of the Nobel Committee**

Visual: Identify this French polymath. **Ans: Jean-Paul Sartre**

Early Birds: K. N. Viswanathan| Manasi Roy| Astha Singh| Jahnavi Taak| Andrew Kap Lian Gualnam

Word of the day

Soiree:
A party of people assembled in the evening (usually at a private house)

Synonym: party

Usage: *She is holding a soiree in her house for friends and family.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/soireepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˌswɑːˈjeɪ/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

The team that helped to develop a new type of enzyme mimetic.

Scientists develop enzyme mimetic with potential applications

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Scientists at the Materials Research Centre (MRC), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), have developed a new type of enzyme mimetic that can degrade toxic chemicals in industrial wastewater effectively in the presence of sunlight.

Enzymes are proteins that catalyse a majority of biological reactions in living systems. However, the practical use of natural enzymes is hindered by inherent limitations such as sensitivity to denaturation (breakdown/damage), complex production procedures, high costs, and difficulties in recycling, says Subinoy Rana, Assistant Professor at MRC and corresponding author of the paper published in *Nanoscale*.

Mass producing these enzymes is an expensive and time-consuming process. Another problem is storage - most of the natural enzymes are temperature-sensitive and require storage at cooler temperatures, often as low as -20°C.

Nano-sized enzyme mimetics or "nanozymes" manufactured in the lab can mimic such natural enzymes and overcome these practical challenges.

In the current study, the IISc team synthesised a platinum-containing nanozyme called NanoPtA, which can be converted into powder form for industrial use.

When the NanoPtA comes in contact with wastewater, the benzene rings and long alkyl chains present in the molecule form multiple non-covalent interactions. Individual NanoPtA molecules connect together to form tape-like structures that start emitting light, which is the origin of its oxidising capacity. The nanozyme can then degrade pollutants present in wastewater by oxidising them in the presence of sunlight, thereby reducing the toxicity of wastewater.

The team found that the nanozyme could degrade even small (micromolar) quantities of common effluents like phenols and dyes within ten minutes when placed under sunlight.

The researchers also found that the NanoPtA complex was quite stable, lasting for up to 75 days at room temperature.

The team believes that the nanozyme can also have applications in healthcare and could be a potentially useful diagnostic tool for neurological and neurodegenerative diseases.

Citizen energy backed by govt. support key to a more liveable city

Incremental changes in local neighbourhood, coupled with being law-abiding citizens can help us build a better Bengaluru

My City My Take

V. Ravichandar

Søren Kierkegaard once wrote, "Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards." To which one might add in the Bengaluru context, "and in the moment" given the myriad hurdles as we traverse the City.

We have a constitutional defect at birth with the city being referred to as a local body instead of a well-defined third tier of city government. The 74th Constitutional amendment has been weak and ineffective and it's necessary to rethink our governance and administration arrangements given that we are effectively a vassal of the State Government.

If outcomes are to be achieved and accountability fixed, we will need a mix of deep decentralization at the area sabha/ward level and appropriate centralization at the apex level of the greater city where the multiple silo agencies work together for common outcomes. Unless this is done, we are doomed to flounder with band-aid fixes for problems of the day. Recommendations exist, but do we have the political will and the administrative firmness needed to make it happen?

Need vulnerability planning framework

Our Master plans since 1995 have spectacularly failed us. We need guiding principles and flexibility with dynamic planning. Primarily we need to switch over to a vulnerability planning framework.

Currently, we think in terms of protection when it comes to the poor. Instead, we need to proactively plan for the vulnerable across sectors and automatically the rest will be taken care of.

Under a vulnerability lens, the pedestrians would be the most at risk on our streets; the dwellings in low-lying areas from flooding; people next to storm water drains, landfills, and far away from public health centres are most vulnerable on the health front; the slum dwellers on housing and so on.

Taking housing as an example, as areas of the city gentrify, it is imperative to think in terms of social rental housing for the vulnerable daily workers in well-to-do areas as we think about Transit Oriented Development plans.

Existing models demand change

Moving onto guiding principles, on mobility the principle must be to move people over moving vehicles.

Consequently, there is no cure for faster movement for individuals sans public transport on scale. For some strange reason, one has never in two decades seen the politico-bureaucratic class embrace bus transport as a key element of the solution set.

On the garbage management front, "what happens in Vegas needs to stay in Vegas"; The current model of transporting and disposing the waste of a 12-million-people city to distant villages/quarries is plain stupid and morally wrong. Segregation coupled with decentralized processing is imperative.

The Cauvery is in the news again as is the case in distress years. Experts have shown that through a mix of rainwater harvesting, recharging aquifers, provisioning wells, wastewater treatment, etc. it's possible to be self-sufficient on water.

A file photo of Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi being flooded near K.R. Circle, after heavy rain.

'Hoovina Karaga' being carried by a priest outside the Dharmarayaswamy temple.

Garbage trucks on the way to the landfill at Mittaganahalli quarry pit, in north Bengaluru.

But we prefer the expensive option of Cauvery and other new sources. Flooding poses an existential risk to Bengaluru and with increasing concretization and building in low-lying areas, it will only get worse. Point fixes will never address the flooding issue - a watershed management view is necessary but nothing in our plans indicate that we get it and that we respect nature's contours.

Soft power appeal

Kempegowda's first base was Yelahanka. Today, next to it we have BIAPPA, an alphabet soup airport region, which together with Yelahanka is an area expanse bigger than BBMP of 712 sq km. We have the chance to guide the development of a good twin city based on a regional structural plan that respects nature's gradients and nature, sound guiding principles, and a strategic spatial plan meshed with community inputs. Are we up to grabbing the moment and cementing a legacy?

It's in the public spaces that a city comes alive. Till recently the city was characterized by shrinking public spaces - for instance there have been no large parks on the scale of Lalbagh and Cubbon Park.

Chowdiah, Ranga Shankara, and Jagriti were pioneers of building cultural spaces but it was not scaled city-wide for over a decade. While Bengaluru's 'hard' infrastructure is a veritable mess, there are promising local developments on the 'soft' infrastructure representing arts, culture, public spaces, conversations, et al.

We have recent additions of privately enabled, public-purpose institutions in the Bangalore International Centre, Indian Music Experience, Museum of Art & Photography, and an upcoming Bengaluru Science Gallery. Cubbon Reads, an initiative started by two individuals, has gone viral in the city and elsewhere in the country.

Marquee events like the Karaga, Bangalore Literature Festival, Attakkalari Dance Biennale, and Design Week are lending their heft to developing Bengaluru's soft power appeal while providing options for local residents. This December, the ten-day Unbox BLR festival of festivals promises to make Bengaluru a go-to destination every December in the decades to come.

For a more liveable city

Brand Bengaluru is the current mantra. It takes a beating when it meets the daily reality of the city's failed infrastructure and 'Trevorberates' globally with the bad news when a famous comic's event is called off for a private mess up. But we can be better.

It begins with each of us, residents of the city, we all love.

Small incremental changes in our local neighbourhood, coupled with being law-abiding citizens in public backed by the implementation of the rule of law can help us build a more liveable city.

Over the years one has been amazed by the energy and positivity among common citizens to make the place better. That needs to be met supportively by the Government and if it learns how to be an enabler, Bengaluru can only get better.

V. Ravichandar is a civic evangelist. He is honorary director at the Bangalore International Centre.

'There is so much that city's waterbodies offer, but we often tend to miss it'

Understanding the biodiversity present in waterbodies was certainly one of the most compelling parts of the conversation

Preeti Zachariah
BENGALURU

Seema Mundoli still remembers the eight checkered keelbacks she saw while on a stroll with friends in Lal Bagh, sunning themselves near the lake there. "It was a stunning sight," says Ms. Mundoli, at a recent event at Bookworm, Bengaluru where she and her co-author Harini Nagendra discussed their latest book, *Shades of Blue: Connecting the Drops in India's Cities,* a treatise on water.

"There is so much that city waterbodies offer, but we often tend to miss it," points out Ms. Mundoli, who like Ms. Nagendra, teaches at the Azim Premji University, Sarjapur. "Waterbodies in cities have a whole range of biodiversity, but we tend to ignore these species as we are so busy going about our daily lives."

A file photo of Hebbal lake.

Turtles of Ganga

At the event, Ms. Mundoli also read from her favourite chapter, one that involved the flesh-eating turtles of the Ganga. Back in the 1980s, as part of the Ganga Action Plan (GAP), the centre decided to release these turtles into a stretch of the Ganga at Varanasi, hoping that they would help depollute the river by feeding on the half-charred carcasses that clogged it. While it seemed to have been successful, at first, with nearly 40,000-odd animals being released into the river and even a turtle sanctuary being established here, it fizzled out as many turtles began disappearing, she read.

Harini Nagendra

Seema Mundoli

"One conjecture is that local people found the flesh of these flesh-eating turtles a delicacy and the meat made its way to dinner tables," she says, adding that while the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 protects all species of turtles by law, in the end, neither the law nor the creation of the sanctuary at the Varanasi was able to protect the turtles that had worked so hard to clean the Ganga.

Themes of water

While understanding the biodiversity present in waterbodies was certainly one of the most compelling parts of the conversation, there were many other ideas, themes, and perspectives that were also discussed, all centred around water. "It is a very difficult subject to write about," says Ms. Mundoli, going on to talk about the format of the book, where chapters on water management in specific cities are interspersed with certain other aspects of water.

"Every third chapter is about the cities," says Ms. Nagendra, listing out the seven places whose water situations are examined in this book: Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Udaipur, Guwahati and finally, Lakshadweep.

She also read from her own favourite chapter -- one devoted to the pundits or native Indian surveyors – and delved into some of the other themes covered in the 24-odd chapters of this book. These include chapters devoted to the origin and chemistry of water, inland water transport, antibiotic resistance, dams, music, and wars, even about cryptozoology or the study of animals, whose existence is disputed, like the Loch Ness monster.

The book discussion ended with an audience interaction, where questions about the research that went into this book, possible solutions to end water crises, the sponge city model, invasive species, and that eternal Bangalore question – what do you do about the city's lakes? -- were addressed.

No universal solutions

What became very clear is that water management is highly complex with no apparent universal solution, since so many factors are at play here. For instance, in the case of Bengaluru, that oft-touted solution of simply restoring old waterways may not be enough, as Ms. Nagendra points out. "Our cities have changed their microtopography," she says. "We have to think a bit differently about marrying the old and the new in a very strategic way."

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO OCTOBER 4, 1973

Raw Silk Prices Fall in Mysore

Bangalore, Oct. 3: Prices of raw silk in Mysore, which accounts for almost the whole of the country's mulberry silk, have crashed, leading the State Government and the Central Silk Board to concert immediate measures for the stabilization of prices.

The Chief Minister, Mr. D. Devaraj Urs, told pressmen here to-day the State Government had requested the Central Silk Board on the measures to combat the slump in raw silk trade with its repercussions on the grower, reeler and weaver.

Standard Ayurvedic Medicines: Minister's Call

Mangalore, Oct. 3: The need for conducting proper research and evolving standardised drugs of ayurvedic origin so that they could be uniformly acceptable to the people and adoption of scientific methods in ayurvedic diagnosis and treatment was stressed by the Union Health Minister, Dr. R.K. Khadilkar, when he inaugurated a building for the ayurvedic college at Udayavara near Udipi yesterday.

He congratulated the Karnataka Ayurveda Shikshana Seva Sangha for its pioneering effort in providing effective training in ayurveda and for conducting research work in an organized manner and felt that the Udipi college could be classified with the ayurvedic centres at Banaras and Jamnagar.

In the spotlight after an 18-year journey

Driven by the acting bug, Munish Sharma's journey has been about sustainability, grit and luck

Shilpa Anandraj

Munish Sharma wanted to make his mark as an actor. However, as is often the case, opportunities were a aplenty except for acting, until the Malayalam film *Ramachandra Boss & Co* happened. The film sees Munish as the antagonist opposite Nivin Pauly and he is thrilled that his work is being appreciated in the south.

After 18 long years of having been there and done that, Munish, laughs about his journey. Speaking over the phone from Kochi where he is shooting for the Malayalam web series, *Blindfold* for SonyLiv, Munish says, "It is a crime thriller, where again I play one of the antagonists."

The Kurukshetra-born Munish has lived most of his life in JP Nagar, Bengaluru. Academics was his main goal till he turned 18. He studied at Sri Aurobindo Memorial School and later "dropped out of his engineering at Sri Bhagwan Mahavir Jain College and went for auditions for a play. It was a top theatre group run by the late theatre personality Ravi Kumar, elder brother of the late actor Vishnuvardhan."

The 38-year-old actor says that was his introduction to theatre. "I gradually ventured out to work with director Pawan Kumar. Apart from plays, I also acted in a couple of short films directed by him."

Next Munish found himself associated with Ranga Shankara. "Here I realised that I was serious about acting. It was a life-changer for me, when I met people across the acting spectrum, like Atul Kumar and others."

Munish started off as a volunteer and soon theatre became serious for him; he found himself working with Vivek Madan, who established Harlequin. "We did a lot of theatre and then suddenly I switched to fashion."

There was a plan to shift base to Mumbai, which was shelved due to financial constraints, Munish says. "I have spent my entire life thinking about paying my rent. There have been days when I'd wake up and tell myself, 'Shoot! It already the 1st!' At that low point, I met Prasad Bidappa, who graciously offered me work. So, from theatre there was a two-year stint in modelling and fashion."

Munish was content doing fashion and ramp walks till he was offered a role in a one-man show *Five grains of Sugar*, a play written by Manav Kaul. "We did 22 shows and then I mustered the courage shift to Mumbai."

He did a few TV commercials and also played the role of an auto driver in the web-series *Bollywood Hero*. "I got the role simply because I knew how to drive an auto, thanks to my friends in Bengaluru, who had taught me." The actor was still not able to sustain himself financially as opportunities were few and far between.

"That was when I was offered a job as a casting associate in one of the major casting companies in Mumbai. Deep down, I knew it was just acting that I wanted to do, but my mind kept beeping the 'rental' alerts and I took up the offer," reveals Munish, who went on to become a successful casting director and even branched out as an independent operator.

> I got a role simply because I knew how to drive an auto, thanks to my friends in Bengaluru, who had taught me.
>
> **MUNISH SHARMA**
> Actor

"The sad part was that acting took a back seat, but I did make a short film *Tala Aur Chabi*, which featured in the Berlin Film Festival in 2013. And one day, I just felt tired, saturated and down. I was looking for a break. So, I shut shop in Mumbai and went back to my birth place."

Once in Kurukshetra, Munish took up a job in a reputed school. "I designed a syllabus for theatre, music and film for children. The original plan was to stick on there for two years, but I ended up staying for six! Working with children acted as a stress buster for me. We made short films and even went on trips to some film festivals in Goa. I enjoyed working with children so much that even today I am a consultant for the school."

Just when he thought he was settled, the pandemic hit. "Acting returned to the forefront. I started looking for acting jobs. Streaming platforms were thriving and most of my friends were now established names on this platform. I re-connected with my casting associates, who are big-time directors and asked them to help me get acting jobs."

Munish soon found himself doing cameos in films and web series, including R Madhavan's, *Decoupled*. "There was again a lull. And one day I saw a call for an audition for a Malayalam film. Everything in the ad was in Malayalam except the email address. I took a chance and sent my profile. To my pleasant surprise, they mailed back with two scenes, and dialogues, which they wanted me to act out, record and mail them back. I mailed them but did not get the role."

Dejected, Munish resigned himself to the wait game, all over again. "I got a call from director Haneef Adeni offering the role of the antagonist in *Ramachandra Boss & Co*. I was seeing stars, unable to believe my luck. I was to act in a film with Nivin Pauly, in film made by his production house. My mind was racing and Haneef asked if I was okay with the role."

Ready to play any character, Munish was off to Kerala. "You see till then, I had nothing to do. For instance in *Rocket Boys* I did not even have lines, but was made to stand behind one of the scientists. This film is like a gift to me from the universe."

Munish plays Amar Madhav, a spoilt, rich psychopath with a back story. "I have nothing in common with the character, but Haneef was clear about what he wanted and I was able to deliver, thanks to him. I also learnt my dialogues in Malayalam. I owe everything to Haneef for giving me this break."

Ramachandra Boss & Co. released this September and Munish discovered he was in the spotlight. "During the film's launch, people walked up to me and congratulated me on my work, but none of them knew my name. That is when I thought it was time to get myself a little publicity," the actor says with a laugh.

"Nivin is a huge star, yet, he is so down to earth. The team was awesome," says Munish. "It took me a little less than two decades to validate my struggle. For me as an actor, you get validation, when one role lands you the next acting job!"

Moods and expressions The many faces of Munish Sharma. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Tuning in Shiraz Ali Khan. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Melodies, anecdotes, and history

Prepare for a mesmerising evening of classical Indian music at Bangalore International Centre as three virtuoso performers come together to showcase their artistry in a captivating medley of *Alap, Jor,* and *Jhala*. This concert, steeped in the tradition of the Dhrupad style (the hallmark of Malhar Seniya Gharana), promises to be a symphony of talent, melody, and history.

Featuring Shiraz Ali Khan, Arindam Bhattacharyya and Mainak Biswas, the evening will have *Alap, Jor,* and *Jhala* - all essential components of the Dhrupad style - followed by *Vilambit* and *Drut Gata,* and a *Jhala*. As the music weaves its magic, the performers will also share anecdotes from the Maihar Gharana, shedding light on their own musical journeys and the Gharana's invaluable contribution to Indian classical music.

Shiraz Ali Khan, a torchbearer of the prestigious Maihar Gharana, is a true custodian of tradition. With a lineage that boasts legendary figures, he has forged his own path by infusing classical compositions with diverse musical influences, leading to the creation of the fusion band, Indian Blue.

Arindam Bhattacharyya, hailing from a family deeply entrenched in music, brings forth a classical training that encompasses both Kirana and Patiala Gharanas. He carries the legacy of his tabla maestro father and has been recognised with accolades, including a national scholarship from the Ministry of Education.

Mainak Biswas, who trained under Guru Shri Ashim Bhattacharjee in the Farukhabad Gharana, has been mesmerising audiences since he was five. His versatility extends to percussion instruments such as the pakhawaj and drums, and he explores diverse world music genres with his band ZYNC.

The performers will share anecdotes from the Maihar Gharana, shedding light on their own musical journeys and the Gharana's invaluable contribution to Indian Music.

On October 5 (7 to 8.30pm) at Bangalore International Centre. Entry is free. To RSVP, visit bangaloreinternationalcentre.org

Two Moons: A culinary constellation

EATING OUT

Praveen Sudevan

In the bustling culinary circus of Bengaluru, where new restaurants seem to sprout up faster than memes in a WhatsApp group, the task of choosing where to dine can feel more uncertain than this year's monsoon. Amid this frenzy in this galaxy of restaurants, we stumbled upon Two Moons, which has been shining on the gastronomic map of Bengaluru for the last one month.

Perched on the fifth floor of Bengaluru's 1 MG - Lido Mall, Two Moons beckons diners for a culinary journey through the vibrant tapestry of regional Indian cuisine. Founded by restaurateur Thejus Shivarama and partner Namratha Nagarahalli, Two Moons takes its name from a serendipitous moment – two wet glass circles on a table that resembled two moons.

Sweet and spice Lobster thermidor and Lights Camera Romance at Two Moons. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Ascending to Two Moons, we were greeted by a casual yet inviting ambience, adorned with pastel hues. Overhead, 56 moon-shaped discs dangled, echoing the celestial inspiration behind the restaurant's name.

Our culinary journey began with two colourful mocktails: a syrupy crimson drink called Lights Camera Romance with apple juice and pineapple milkwash, and 365 Days, a glimmery yellow drink made of jackfruit essence and chia seeds.

Soups included mutton *paya sorbha* and prawn *rasam*. While the former leaned slightly towards saltiness, the latter offered a harmonious blend of minced prawn, tomato, onion, coriander, garlic, and curry leaves. Pimento peppers with lemon almond aioli transported us to the beaches of Chennai, reminiscent of *molaga bajjis*. Pepper chicken wings, mildly spicy with caramelised onions, were equally delicious. Falafel with hummus, though crispy, was a tad salty.

Two Moons
Address: 1 MG - Lido Mall, MG Road, Bengaluru
Cuisine: Indian
Cost for two: ₹2,500 (approx)

The main course unveiled a culinary kaleidoscope with *meen pollichathu*, where a tenderly cooked sea bass, enveloped in plantain leaf, carried a medley of spices, roasted coconut and curry leaves. Mutton *seekh kebab*, free from the usual mutton odour, was a flavorful exploration of Indian spices. However, the highlight of our meal was lobster thermidor, a symphony of colours and flavours that delighted both the eyes and the palate. Lobster meat, tossed in hollandaise, was accompanied by mashed potato, lemon slice, and butter-tossed haricot.

The desserts marked a sweet culmination of our journey of Two Moons. *Phirni* creme brule, with its caramelised sugar crust and frozen berries, provided a delightful contrast of textures and flavours. Biscoff cheesecake, adorned with bisco butter caramel, concluded our meal on a heartwarming note.

Two Moons stands out as a family-friendly venue with lounges serving alcohol. It is accompanied by Minx (a space for private parties) and Juliet (an open-air terrace lounge). Our only grouse with the three-part food and drink space is that Juliet enforces a dress code, requiring patrons to wear shoes.

With live music, an inviting ambience, and a menu celebrating familiar flavours, it is restaurateurs Thejus and Namratha hope Two Moons will soon become a shining star in Bengaluru's culinary constellation.

CITYBEATS

Musical space

ON GOING
Muzigal has launched its state-of-the-art Music Academy, founded by Dr Lakshminarayana Yeluri. This is its second academy which is designed to accommodate over 500 students across multiple batches. It offers lessons in piano, keyboard, guitar, drums, Carnatic vocals, Hindustani vocals, Western vocals, violin and ukulele.
At HRBR. Visit https://muzigal.com/

For a happier you

OCTOBER 8, 5.30AM
The Nexus Malls in the city will be hosting "Run for Happyness" in association with Being Social. The focus of the run is to promote the importance of personal health and advocate healthy living.
At all Nexus Malls in Bengaluru.
To register visit https://www.runindia.in/events/Run-for-Happyness-2023 or call 9620961824

Colours of sound

OCTOBER 7, 4PM
Radiohead will present 'In Rainbows' at the upcoming vinyl listening session at The Drawing Room by Smoke House Deli. 'In Rainbows' is celebrated for its enigmatic blend of art rock and electronic elements. The event will also include a vinyl pop-up, a curated collection of music specially selected for the day.
At Smoke House Deli, Indiranagar. Tickets on urbanaut

INBRIEF

HC rejects Lakshadweep MP Faizal's plea in murder case

The conviction of Lakshadweep MP Mohammad Faizal in an attempt to murder case will continue as the Kerala High Court declined the plea to suspend the conviction after it found there were materials *prima facie* evidencing the criminal acts on the part of the accused. However, the court suspended his sentence in the case. The order was passed by Justice N. Nagaresh on Tuesday.

A.P. HC grants reprieve to Nara Lokesh in IRR case

The High Court of Andhra Pradesh on Tuesday granted reprieve to TDP national general secretary Nara Lokesh in the Amaravati Inner Ring Road (IRR) alignment case. The High Court ordered the Crime Investigation Department (CID) to postpone his questioning to October 10. The court was dealing with a lunch motion petition through which Mr. Lokesh raised certain objections related to the contents of the notice issued to him by the CID under Section 41-A of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC).

Navaratri Brahmotsavams to commence from October 15

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) is gearing up for the nine-day annual Navaratri Brahmotsavams scheduled to commence from October 15. The procession of Golden Tiruchi will mark the commencement of the festival on October 15. The important days of the festival include Garuda Vahanam on October 19, Pushpaka Vimanam on October 20, Swarna Ratham on October 22 and Chakrasnanam on October 23.

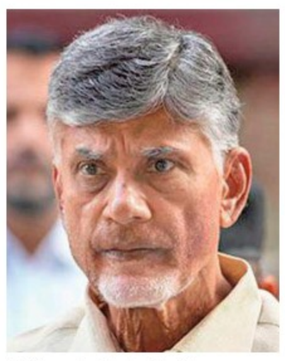
No interim relief for Naidu in skill development case

SC will hear plea on October 9; senior advocate Harish Salve argues that the case is related to policy decisions approved by the State Cabinet and cannot be the subject of criminal proceedings

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday did not give any immediate relief to former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, who has sought the quashing of an FIR registered against him in the skill development scam case.

Issuing notice to the State of Andhra Pradesh, a Bench of Justices Aniruddha Bose and Bela M. Trivedi instead posted the case for further hearing on October 9. It asked the State to produce complete case records submitted in the High Court.


N. Chandrababu Naidu

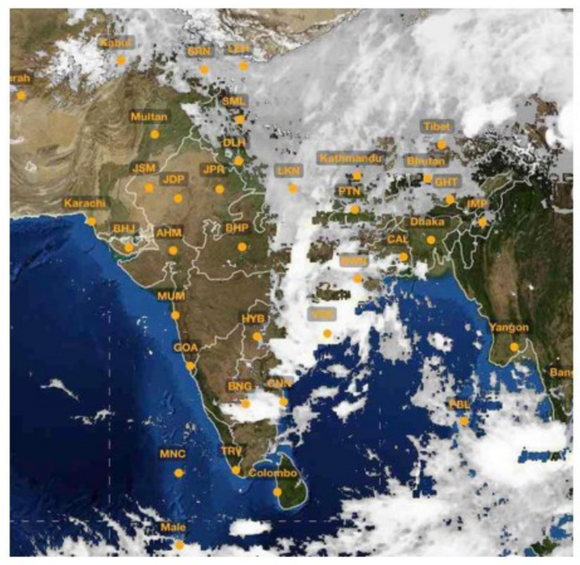
Mr. Naidu was represented by senior advocates Harish Salve, A.M. Singhvi and Siddharth Luthra, prompting the court to comment that it usually did not allow multiple lawyers to appear for the same client.

Mr. Salve argued that the case was related to policy decisions approved by the State Cabinet and cannot be the subject of criminal proceedings. The ₹360 crore allotment for the skill development project was included in the 2015-16 Budget. Mr. Naidu's lawyers argued that the prosecution did not get the mandatory prior sanction under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act before instituting criminal proceedings against Mr. Naidu. Mr. Singhvi and Mr. Luthra contended that prior sanction from the Governor was required as the decision to undertake the project was part of the official duties of Mr. Naidu when he was Chief Minister. Mr. Naidu's team claimed the FIRs were motivated.

"No police officer can conduct an enquiry or inquiry or investigation into an act allegedly done by a public servant in the course of discharge of his office without the prior approval of competent authority," his petition said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 19.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	32.6	25.0	Kozhikode	—	33.2	24.8
Ahmedabad	—	35.7	24.2	Kurnool	—	33.5	25.7
Aizawl	23	29.9	20.7	Lucknow	0.4	32.9	25.7
Allahabad	—	30.0	27.0	Madurai	—	38.6	24.7
Bengaluru	—	29.8	20.4	Mangaluru	—	30.4	23.4
Bhopal	—	33.8	19.0	Mumbai	—	31.3	25.0
Bhubaneswar	1.2	32.4	23.7	Mysuru	—	—	23.4
Chandigarh	—	35.3	20.8	New Delhi	—	34.4	18.3
Chennai	—	36.2	27.8	Patna	—	32.1	26.0
Coimbatore	—	33.8	22.8	Port Blair	22	27.1	24.2
Dehradun	—	33.9	18.0	Puducherry	—	36.1	26.4
Gangtok	13	20.7	17.5	Pune	—	31.8	21.9
Goa	0.6	31.0	23.6	Raipur	9.4	33.0	25.5
Guwahati	5	32.0	25.6	Ranchi	26	24.8	22.3
Hubballi	—	30.0	22.0	Shillong	14	23.5	18.0
Hyderabad	—	31.6	23.3	Shimla	—	24.5	13.0
Imphal	2	28.3	21.3	Srinagar	—	27.0	9.9
Jaipur	—	35.7	23.8	Thiruvananthapuram	66	27.6	23.0
Kochi	5	30.2	24.4	Tiruchi	—	35.9	25.6
Kohima	—	25.0	15.0	Vijayawada	—	35.4	26.5
Kolkata	10	30.0	26.2	Visakhapatnam	—	32.2	26.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	2	10	58	217	150	
Bengaluru	7	13	40	182	192	
Chennai	3	22	44	40	72	
Delhi	27	50	35	149	293	
Hyderabad	11	10	34	107	110	
Kolkata	34	21	19	20	23	
Lucknow	7	10	70	41	68	
Mumbai	12	14	40	165	123	
Pune	133	225	112	82	71	
Visakhapatnam	6	60	33	79	128	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Chittorgarh, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 339 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Tumakuru, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 19

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

If we start a project, we complete it: PM

V. Geetanath
NIZAMABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the culture of his government is such that if it begins any project, it will also complete it.

Launching or laying foundation stone for projects worth ₹8,000 crore at Indoor in Nizamabad on Tuesday, Mr. Modi said projects will help in trade, business and generate jobs for people of Telangana.

Addressing the gathering as "my family members" in Telugu, he said the Centre had focused on providing quality power round-the-clock and is making available affordable healthcare. The Prime Minister had flagged off the ₹1,200-crore maiden passenger train service to Siddipet from Secunderabad and also launched the new line. Electrification between Dharmabad-Manoharabad and Mahabubnagar-Kurnool costing ₹305 crore was also dedicated to the nation virtually.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagging off train service from Nizamabad virtually on Tuesday. K.V. RAMANA

The ₹6,000-crore NTPC 800 MW thermal plant phase 1 was launched in Peddapalli and stone for ₹517 crore 50 PM Ayushman Bharat infrastructure mission critical care centres in 20 districts was laid. Mr. Modi said the NTPC plant is the most modern one in the country with 85% power going to Telangana for which he had laid foundation stone earlier. The second unit too will be commissioned soon, he said.

The new healthcare centre will provide free treatment for up to 5 lakh, he said.

Catholic priest joins BJP in Kerala

The Hindu Bureau
IDUKKI

A Catholic priest of the Syro-Malabar Church has formally joined the BJP.

Fr. Kuriakose Mattam, 73, vicar of St. Thomas Church, Mankuva, took the primary membership of the party on Monday.

But within hours, the Bishop of Idukki Mar John Nellikunnel removed him from pastoral duties.

Downpour brings Thiruvananthapuram to its knees

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Heavy rain triggered by the cyclonic circulation over the Bay of Bengal for the third consecutive day on Tuesday brought Thiruvananthapuram to its knees with city roads inundated in the aftermath.

The World Cup warm-up match between India and the Netherlands at the Greenfield International Stadium here was abandoned due to the heavy rain. This is the third warm-up match in Thiruvananthapuram to be called off due to rain.

Tough times: A flooded street in Thampanoor following heavy rain in Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday. S. MAHINSHA

Neyyattinkara in Thiruvananthapuram received the highest rainfall of 108 mm in the last 24 hours ending at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday. The train service between Thiruvananthapuram and Nagercoil was disrupted for a brief period after a chunk of earth caved in on the track near Nemom. Trees also reportedly fell across the track near Kulithurai, disrupting the service for a while.

Rainwater also entered houses and buildings in low-lying areas. The clogged water has disrupted the smooth flow of traffic in many places such as Thampanoor, Chakka and Enchakkal. The Enchakkal-Vallakkadavu road was also flooded. A holiday has been declared by the district administration for educational institutions in Thiruvananthapuram and in Cherthala taluk of Alappuzha on Wednesday.

Earlier, hundreds of acres of paddy fields were submerged at Edathua in Alappuzha following the heavy downpour.

Though the intensity of rain abated by the evening, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a warning of light to moderate rainfall across the State on Wednesday.

The intensity of rain is likely to abate considerably in the coming days with the weakening of the weather systems over the Bay of Bengal.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients **1) Mr. NARAYANAPPA** S/o. Late. Govindu, Aged about 63 years, 2) Mr. NARENDRA. N, Aged about 30 years, S/o. Sri. Narayanappa, Both are R/at. # 66, 8/5th Main Road, Double Road, NRI Layout, Ramamurthynagar, Bangalore- 560016. is intending to purchase the Schedule property from its owner, **Sri. KISHORE .B. PATEL**, aged about 64 years, S/o. B.A. Patel, R/at. # 18-V, Bhavani Nagar, Galpadar, Gandhidham Kachahh, Gujarath-370240, for Valuable Consideration. Any persons having any rights/claims/objections/Minor Claims, in respect of the schedule property are hereby requested to send their objections to the above mentioned address within 7 days, from the receipt of the this public notice. If no objections are forth coming within 7 days, my clients shall get executed sale deed in their favour.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing House No. 58, MIG-II-B, Khata No. 60, Gandhinagar, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560084, measuring East to West 18 Mtrs, and North to South (17.40+16.00)/2 Mtrs) in all measuring 300.60 Square Mtrs) and bounded on

East by : Road,
West by : House No.63,
North by : Road,
South by : Balance land allotted to owner of Sy. No. 108,

Mr. Manjunath Reddy, B.A., LLB.,
Smt. T. Shobha Reddy, B.Sc., LLB.,
No. 8/7, Mega City BEML Layout Road, Maragondanahalli Main Road, K.R. Puram Post, Bangalore-36.
Ph:- 9845520830, 7353233778, 9880055599

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
TAMILNADU STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY (TANSACS)

The full details of call for procurement of 16 Mobile Vehicles with necessary fabrication for Testing & Counseling Services by Tamil Nadu State AIDS Control Society (TANSACS) is uploaded in **https://tntender.gov.in** and **https://tntansacs.gov.in**

PROJECT DIRECTOR
Tamil Nadu State AIDS Control Society

Tender Id : 2023_SACS_375206_1
Tender reference No: TANSACA/ICTC/01/2023-tntender.gov.in

DIPR/5398/TENDER/2023

TAMIL NADU CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION HEAD OFFICE,
No,12,THAMBUSAMY ROAD,KILPAUK,CHENNAI - 600010
Ph.No.(044) 26426773
CIN : U15137TN1972SGC006157

No.BS7/033476/2023 **Dated : 29.09.2023**

Bengal Gram (Whole)E-tender No.BS7/033476/2023 - TNCSC/23-24
Green Gram(Whole) E-tender No.BS7/036540/ 2023 - TNCSC / 23- 24

Online electronic tender for the " PURCHASE of 550 MTs. of Black Bengal Gram (Whole) and 500 MTs. of Green Gram (Whole) " at all the operational godowns in 39 Regions for PTMGRNMP schemes and ICDS.

A Complete e-tender document can be viewed and downloaded through **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

The bidders have to participate online bidding only with Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of class-II or Class-III

Last Date for Online Submission : up to 11.00 AM on 19.10.2023.

DIPR/5385TENDER/2023 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA Tel.06766-258301(O); email: se_nerwkjr@rediffmail.com
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE : KEONJHAR
e Procurement Notice for Bridge Works under BSY
Identification No. Bridge Online NCB No.390
No. 3512 / Date : 29/09/23

1. Name of the Work : **Construction of Bridge Works under BSY in the District of Keonjhar.**
2. No. of Work : **06 (Six)** Nos.
3. Estimated Cost : As per Annexure in NIT.
4. Class of Contractor (Eligible) : As per Annexure in NIT
5. Period of Completion : As per Annexure in NIT
6. Other details:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender Online for bidding From	Availability of Tender Online for bidding To	Last Date & Time of Seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E., R.W.Circle, Keonjhar Technical Bid	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E., R.W.Circle, Keonjhar Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar	Bridge Online NCB No.390	Dt.06.10.23 at 11:00 A.M.	Dt.26.10.23 up to 5:00 P.M.	Dt.25.10.23 up to 5:00 P.M.	Dt.27.10.23 at 11:00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

● Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Keonjhar.
O-1182: OIPR-25177/11/0028/2324

KMF Karnataka Co-Operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
KMF Complex: Dr. M. H. Marigowda Road, DRC Post, Bangalore-560 029.
Tel: 080-25536625 / 25536789 Fax: 080-25536105

IFT No: KMF/ENGG/CFPH-BOILER REPAIR/1768/2023-24 **Date: 03-10-2023**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
[TWO COVER SYSTEM] [THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY]

Karnataka Milk Federation Ltd; Bangalore invites tender from the eligible suppliers / manufacturers through E-procurement for the works mentioned in the table below. The interested and reputed suppliers / manufacturers who have handled similar kind of works may participate in the tender as indicated below, by logging on to website https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and also contact Help desk E-mail; hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com and helpline no. 080-25501227/ 25501216.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Qty	EMD (Rs.)	Period of completion
1	Boiler Tube Replacement and Related Works to Cattle Feed Plant-Hassan	1 Job	17,500/-	1 Month

1. Tender schedules may be downloaded from dated: 04-10-2023 to 13-10-2023 up to 4.00 pm.
2. Last date for Tender submission on date: 13-10-2023 up to 4.00 pm
3. Tender [Part 1] to be opened on date: 16-10-2023 at 4:30 pm.

For Karnataka Co-Op. Milk Federation Ltd.,
Sd/-
Director [Engineering-2]

BHUBANESWAR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
AKASH SHOVA BUILDING, SACHIVALAYA MARG, BHUBANESWAR - 751001
Visit us at : https://www.bda.gov.in

Invitation For Bids
Bid Identification No.1118/EM Date: 30/09/2024

Engineer Member, BDA on behalf of Bhubaneswar Development Authority, Bhubaneswar invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible **Manufacturer or Authorised Supplier** for the work as mentioned below:

1. Nature of Work : **Supply of "FURNITURE"**
2. Amount put to tender : **Rs.379.28 Lakh**
3. Class of Contractor : **Manufacturer or Authorised Supplier**
4. Period of Completion : **30 (Thirty) Days.**
5. Cost of Bid Documents : **Rs.10,000.00 + 18% GST=Rs.11,800.00**
6. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) : **1% of the amount put to tender**
7. Availability of Tender : **From 04.10.2023 to 5.00 PM of 16.10.2023 in the e-procurement website.**
8. Date of time of opening of Tender : **Dt.18.10.2023 at 10.00 AM**
9. Place of opening of Tender : **O/o - Engineer Member, BDA, Bhubaneswar.**

Further details can be seen from the website: **https://tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum / Corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Engineer Member, BDA, Bhubaneswar.
CAD-2273 : OIPR-13033/11/0337/2324

ODISHA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR- 751002.
Tel-MD 0674- 2340573, Tel Fax - 2340096; E-mail - mdosscltd456@gmail.com

NIT No.OSSC/Mktg(Hort) - 40/2023

Short e-Tender Call Notice for Purchase of Certified Cumin Seeds for Rabi-2023-24

OSSC Ltd., invites Short e-Tender only from Registered Cumin Seeds Producers (and in case of GOI PSUs, their authorized Agencies) on item wise rate contract basis in double Cover System through Online Mode only for the works below.

Name of the work	Purchase of Certified Cumin Seeds for Rabi - 2023-24
Nos of work	One
Availability of Bid Documents in Portal	15 hours on 04.10.2023 to 17 hours of 13.10.2023
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	17 hours of 13.10.2023
Date and Time of Opening of Bid	10.30 hours of 16.10.2023

The detailed descriptions of crops, varieties, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions specified in the tender schedule would be made available in the e-Tender portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/ corrigendum/cancellation can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/-
Managing Director, OSSC Ltd.
CAD-2271 : OIPR-01106/11/0057/2324

Shot in the arm

Success of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines picked the Nobel winners this year

All nominees for the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine have path-breaking achievements to their credit, but often, the final choice of the winner might have a lot to do with the timing and the context. Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman would have thus been safe bets for their work that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19. The 2023 Nobel announcement comes as no surprise, given that the benefits of the discovery are still keeping people alive and out of hospitals. It also ticks all the boxes: the Nobel prize for Medicine must be awarded for a discovery that would confer the 'greatest benefit on mankind' which mRNA undoubtedly did. This Nobel is also significant in that it recognises the contribution of a woman of science: 13 women have now won the Nobel Prize for Medicine (out of 225 awarded); and only 62 women have won any Nobel Prize (against 894 men) so far.

The best outcomes inevitably emerge from intersectoral collaborations, and steadfast scientific research conducted against all odds. Hungarian biochemist Katalin Karikó became fascinated with mRNA when it was a mere possibility. In human cells, genetic information encoded in DNA is transferred to messenger RNA (mRNA) and this is then used as a template for protein production. Proteins are the main structural component of cells, and play a key role in growth and repair. During the 1980s, a method called in vitro transcription permitted the idea of using mRNA for vaccine and therapy to take off, but enthusiasm to work on this flagged as several hurdles emerged, including challenges in delivery and inflammatory reactions. Undeterred, Karikó kept on the course of developing methods to use mRNA for therapy, when she was an assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania. She was then joined by immunologist Weissman, who was studying dendritic cells that have important functions in immune surveillance and activation of vaccine-induced immune responses. Over the years, by making base modifications to the mRNA they managed to ease delivery paths and get rid of the inflammatory reactions. An inchoate idea was finally teased into fruition. This was in 2005, 15 years before the COVID-19 pandemic. But the time and context arrived in 2019, when scientists taught the mRNA vaccine to instruct human cells to make the S protein found on the surface of the COVID-19 virus. This causes the body to create antibodies which will fight the virus if the individual were to contract the infection. The rest, of course, is history.

All vie for the Cup

India, as the host, carries the weight of expectations in ICC World Cup

Cricket's biggest showpiece event, the ICC World Cup, is set for a grand launch at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium on Thursday. When defending champion England and the 2019 edition's runners-up New Zealand clash in the inaugural fixture, the World Cup's 13th edition will commence its frenetic run across diverse venues in India before winding back to Ahmedabad for the final on November 19. Mumbai and Kolkata, the established big-game venues in Indian cricket, forced to play second fiddle to Ahmedabad is Indian cricket's new reality, which is often juxtaposed between commercial heft and political clout. Previously, India conducted the 50-over World Cup in 1987, 1996 and 2011 but in all these championships, there were subcontinental co-hosts. Cut to the present, India will be the lone host with outposts as diverse as Chennai and Dharamshala exuding World Cup warmth. In a willow game that is torn between its classical version of Tests and the frenzied universe of Twenty20 leagues, the ODIs have become more of an afterthought. But once in four years, the ODIs get renewed afresh thanks to the World Cup, which offers it some context and a strong base. The latest edition is no different and if it can build towards a rousing climax like the 2019 one at Lord's, ODIs may regain some charm.

Since the World Cup caravan started rolling from 1975, a few myths got busted too. One such was that hosts never win the cup that matters in cricket. But once M.S. Dhoni hoisted the winning six at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium on a 2011 April night, the host-not-winning jinx was finally broken. Since then, Australia in 2015 and England in 2019 have shown that organising the World Cup with the resultant pressures, does not necessarily prevent the host from having the last laugh. Rohit Sharma's men now have the unenviable task of replicating this trend. The Indian unit, despite four key players gradually coming back from injuries – Jasprit Bumrah, Hardik Pandya, K.L. Rahul and Shreyas Iyer – looks strong but the support staff have to keep an eye on the overall fitness index. India's template of strong batting overwhelming the rivals may still be in vogue with Rohit, Shubman Gill and Virat Kohli leading the batting tree but the bowlers too, especially speedsters led by Bumrah and the two Mohammeds – Shami and Siraj – can raise probing questions. The return of R. Ashwin along with the presence of Kuldeep Yadav, does strengthen the spin quotient. Among the rest, England, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and Pakistan, may well throw up surprises and scupper the host's well-laid plans.

The triumph of Vachathi over a hostile state

R. Vaigai

is a senior advocate practising at the Madras High Court and is a member of the legal team for the Vachathi survivors

The Madras High Court's judgment, on September 29, 2023, upholding the human rights of the people of Vachathi in Tamil Nadu is remarkable – as a constitutional court, it unmasked and recognised that coordinated and large-scale repression by uniformed forces cannot take place without orders from or complicity at the top levels of the government.

The court said, "In order to safeguard the actual smugglers and the big-shots, the revenue officers, police officials and also the forest officials, with the help of the then Government, played a big stage drama (sic), in which the innocent tribal women got affected." In the context of the large-scale violence we see today by law enforcement agents on the common man, the decision assumes importance. The repression of the anti-Sterlite protests, the student protests in Jawaharlal Nehru University and elsewhere, the bulldozer raj in Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, the repression against tribals and the violence in Manipur are but a few instances.

The villagers of Vachathi have created history and the court verdict is testament to their resolve. it is an assertion of their dignity. This is among the rarest cases in the annals of legal history where all 215 accused (the survivors of the 269 accused), government and law enforcement personnel stand convicted en masse of offences under The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and the Indian Penal Code. Rigorous imprisonment ranging from one to 10 years with fine has also been imposed.

State-orchestrated violence

A recollection of some of the events at Vachathi, a remote village of Adivasis in Dharmapuri district, Tamil Nadu is necessary. On June 20, 1992, about 300 uniformed officials unleashed violence on the village on the pretext of unearthing smuggled sandalwood. Eighteen women including a woman who was pregnant were raped. And, 90 women, 28 children and 15 men were illegally confined in the Forest Ranger's office. The custodians of law ordered the "*Oor Gounder*" (the village chief) to strip the women. The women were then asked to beat him with brooms. Several villagers were sent to Central Jail, Salem. The officials continued the plunder and violence, forcing the villagers to flee to the forests. After visits by members of the Tamil Nadu Tribals Association and the All India Democratic Women's Association in July 1992, A. Nallasivan, the then State Secretary, CPI(M) wrote to then Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J. Jayalalithaa. K.A. Sengottaiyan, Minister for Forests, proclaimed that the complaint was fabricated. The government machinery down to the District Collector, the Revenue Divisional Officer, the Superintendent of Police and the Chief Conservator of Forests failed to take action despite representations. Former IAS officer, Ms. Bhamathi, who was Director of the National Commission of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Puducherry and Lakshadweep) was the only official who sent a report of her findings to the National Commission of SC/ST. Yet, no first information report was registered.

State-backed violence is anathema in a democratic republic and the case has only highlighted the need to amend the criminal law to fix command responsibility and ensure stringent penalty

A public interest litigation by A. Nallasivan was stoutly opposed by the State through its Advocate-General, the highest law officer. In 1995, the High Court relied on Ms. Bhamathi's report to rebuff the state, directed the supply of basic needs and asked the Central Bureau of Investigation to investigate.

It has been a long wait for justice. Why so? The obduracy of the state to deny even mandatory interim relief to victimised Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes , the false cases that the police foisted on innocent villagers and the multitude of petitions by the accused to stall the trial with tacit support of the state were a few of manifold obstacles.

Absence of command liability

However, the main reason for the delay is clear in the court's observation: "It is not the situation that a private individual committed the offence and a single victim made complaint" and that "evidence of the victims clearly show that they were threatened by the uniform force not to reveal the sexual assault committed by the uniform force and if it was... they would take away the life of the individual or their family members".

Why was this state-organised collective crime dealt with as any other individual crime? Is this not a monumental flaw? When crimes are committed by agents of the state, should not "command responsibility" and culpability be fixed on the heads of departments and the Ministers too? The focus of evidence, onus and degree of proof and culpability would then shift. The trial was protracted and justice delayed because of the gross lacuna in the criminal justice system. Our criminal laws do not provide special procedures, evidentiary principles and criminal liability for such organised crimes by state actors. The prosecution had to prove the guilt of each of those accused as if an individual offence had been committed.

In line with Principle 24 of the UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials, law enforcement agencies must adopt measures to ensure that superior officers are held responsible if they know, or should have known, that officials under their command are resorting, or have resorted, to a violation of human rights, and they did not take measures to prevent, or report such use.

In numerous judgments, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in South America has established that factors relevant to fix the responsibility of superiors are: knowledge of risk by state officials and the duty to know of the existence of a real and immediate risk to life and/or physical integrity, and the reasonable possibilities of preventing or avoiding that risk. Therefore, ignorance of actual occurrence cannot be claimed if superiors did not exercise adequate supervision and control. Article 28 of the Rome Statute followed by the International Court of Justice also follows the principle of command responsibility. In India, the Prevention of Communal and Targeted Violence (Access to Justice and Reparations) Bill has lapsed. The new criminal law Bills introduced by the central government as an exercise to decolonise old laws do not recognise organised violence by state agents as a separate class of crime and provide no speedy remedy. State violence is a colonial legacy and is anathema in a democratic republic.

STs have been oppressed historically and the law treats sexual and targeted violence against them as aggravated atrocities fit for rigorous punishment. Command liability in the case of Vachathi is writ large. The High Court has, therefore, ingeniously fastened the responsibility on the state to pay the enhanced compensation of ₹10 lakh and to ensure a job for each rape survivor. Stringent action has been directed against the then District Collector, Superintendent of Police and the District Forest Officer. Is there no accountability and culpability to be fixed on the political executive? The case has thrown up the urgent need to amend the criminal law to fix command responsibility and consequent stringent penalty.

Aggravated trauma

The atrocities happened two decades before 'Nirbhaya' (2012) that shook the nation's conscience. Criminal law amendments of 2013 and subsequent judicial decisions regarding non-disclosure of the identity of rape survivors, gender sensitive investigation and trial to prevent further victimisation and facility of medico-legal and psychological support were unavailable. For the 18 rape survivors, the full public disclosure of their identities, accompanied by harsh cross examinations on behalf of not one but several accused during the trial amounted to aggravated trauma. But they overcame a hostile state and an archaic and unfriendly criminal justice system. Many are now educated and are full participants in the economic and political activities in the area. These women are the true heroes of Vachathi.

The trouble with a Nobel for mRNA COVID vaccines

Vasudevan Mukunth

The 2023 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine has been awarded to Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman for developing the mRNA vaccine technology that became the foundation for history's fastest vaccine development programme during the COVID-19 pandemic. The prizes acknowledge work that has created benefits "for all mankind", but if we had to be stricter about holding scientific accomplishments up to this standard, the subset of mRNA vaccines used during the COVID-19 pandemic may not meet it. Yet, Dr. Karikó and Dr. Weissman, and others, deserved to win the prize for their scientific accomplishments. Instead, their triumph tells us something important about the world in which science happens and what "for all mankind" should really mean.

Dr. Kariko and Dr. Weissman began working together on the mRNA platform at the University of Pennsylvania in the late 1990s. The University licensed its patents to mRNA RiboTherapeutics, which sublicensed them to CellScript, which sublicensed them to Moderna and BioNTech for $75 million each. Dr. Karikó joined BioNTech as senior vice-president in 2013, and the company enlisted Pfizer to develop its mRNA vaccine for COVID-19 in 2020.

At the expense of public funds

Much of the knowledge that underpins most new drugs and vaccines is unearthed at the expense of governments and public funds. This part of drug development is more risky and protracted, when scientists identify potential biomolecular targets within the body on which a drug could act in order to manage a particular disease, followed by identifying suitable chemical candidates. The cost and time estimates of this phase are $1billion-$2.5 billion and several decades, respectively.

The triumph of Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman tells us something important about the world in which science happens and what 'for all mankind' should really mean

Companies subsequently commoditise and commercialise these entities, raking in millions in profits, typically at the expense of the same people whose taxes funded the fundamental research. There is something to be said for this model of drug and vaccine development, particularly for the innovation it fosters and the eventual competition that lowers prices, but we cannot deny the 'double-spend' it imposes on consumers – including governments – and the profit-seeking attitude it engenders among the companies developing and manufacturing the product.

Once Moderna and Pfizer began producing their mRNA COVID-19 vaccines, they were also mired in North American and European countries' zeal to make sure they had more than enough for themselves before allowing manufacturers to export them to the rest of the world; their use in other countries (including India) was also complicated by protracted negotiations over pricing and liability.

On COVAX

COVAX, the programme to ensure poorer countries did not become the victims of their subpar purchasing power and had sufficient stocks of mRNA vaccines, fell far short of its targets. India, Russia, and China exported billions of doses of their vaccines, but their efforts were also beset by concerns that manufacturing capacity had been overestimated – in India's case – and over quality in Russia's and China's. There were reports of several countries in Africa having to throw away lakhs of vaccine doses because they had been exported too close to their expiry dates. The World Health Organization did urge these countries to use the expired doses, but such a task presumed an existing base of community engagement and risk communication, which was absent in many of these countries.

And Corbevax

A counterexample to the path that Dr. Karikó followed is Corbevax: researchers at the Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, and the Texas Children's Hospital Centre for Vaccine Development developed this protein sub-unit vaccine and licensed it to India's Biological E for manufacturing. They did not patent it. In February 2022, Texas politician Lizzie Fletcher wrote a letter nominating the vaccine's developers for a Nobel Prize for Peace "for their work to develop and distribute a low-cost COVID-19 vaccine to people of the world without patent limitation". Kenya's Ambassador to the United Nations Martin Kimani commended the developers for "providing sorely needed ethical and scientific leadership".

We cannot blame our scientists for trying to profit from their work; the mRNA vaccine story during the COVID-19 pandemic simply placed an extraordinary premium on altruism on their part – a result of administrators' botched decisions. The technology could have benefited everyone during the pandemic, but it did not. So, history should remember what actually happened during the pandemic and what the 2023 Medicine Nobel claims happened differently.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Medicine Nobel

The 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine being conferred on Hungarian biochemist Katalin Karikó and American physician-scientist Drew Weissman is a case of well-deserved recognition ("Medicine Nobel 2023 goes to duo who paved the way for mRNA COVID vaccines", page 1, October 3). This is work that is a fine example of 'laboratory to the field' and the saving of millions of lives. It is a crucial incentive to the medical fraternity to come up with other novel vaccines and medicines to prevent future epidemics and pandemics.

Manas Agarwal,
New Delhi

The award this year once again highlights the advantages of long-term collaborative interdisciplinary research that facilitates an active exchange of ideas — the genesis of milestone advances in science. As a professor of biochemistry, I am reminded of another case of 'combined decades-long work' — the 1985 Nobel Laureates American biochemist Joseph L. Goldstein and American physician and geneticist Michael S. Brown for elucidation of the pathway of cholesterol metabolism, and the development and successful use of drugs in lowering blood cholesterol levels. These great scientists are saviours of mankind.

Dr. Biju C. Mathew,
Thiruvananthapuram

The award is news that is sure to be relished by all. This is an example of research that is relatable and which played a pivotal role in keeping COVID-19 in check. It restored confidence in the world. One hopes that there are sure-cures for other diseases still tormenting us.

A.J. Rangarajan,
Chennai

The award may be premature after the performance of the m-RNA COVID-19 vaccines in bulk. If the award is for a concept, it could have come a long time ago. In any case, many proposed novel concepts in science remain unrewarded.

M. Balakrishnan,
Bengaluru

At Hangzhou

It is absolutely heartening to see Indian athletes making India proud at the Asian Games. With the huge amount of human capital that this country boasts of it seems to be finally happening — where we are seeing Indians at the top of their game.

Vrinda Rajvanshi,
New Delhi

Team India's comprehensive demolition of arch-rivals Pakistan in hockey marks its continued and glorious run. It brings back golden memories of the heydays of Indian hockey, and can be attributed to sheer professionalism, a clear-cut game plan, cohesiveness, and team spirit. The fact that Captain Harmanpreet Singh, who is in sparkling form, continues to lead from the front makes every victory sweeter.

B. Suresh Kumar,
Coimbatore

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Using AI for audit techniques

K.P. Shashidharan

is a retired Director General, Comptroller and Auditor General of India

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), Girish Chandra Murmu, who is the chair for the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of the G20, warned that absolute dependence on Artificial Intelligence (AI) for auditing purposes may lead to inaccurate findings, and emphasised ethics as the cornerstone of responsible AI. The CAG conducts financial audits, compliance audits, and performance audits. The auditing challenges of AI include ensuring transparency, objectivity, fairness, and avoiding bias.

Responsible AI must be ethical and inclusive. Only ethical AI can add credibility, trust, and scalability to the CAG audit. Data sets must be complete, gathered on time, accurate, available, and relevant. If integrity of the data fields is not ensured, we will have inaccurate audit findings. The AI auditor must be extra-vigilant about the risk of inherent AI data bias if data are taken from unauthorised sources like social media, where data manipulation and fabrication are common.

India needs AI regulation

In June, the European Parliament approved the EU AI Act, the first of its kind in the world. The Act ensures that generative AI tools such as ChatGPT will be placed under greater restrictions and scrutiny. Developers will have to submit their systems for review and approval before releasing them commercially. Parliament also prohibited real-time biometric surveillance from all public settings and "social scoring" systems.

Ensuring the accuracy of vast Internet data mines is a challenge. The content generated by AI systems may lead to potential copyright infringement issues, violating intellectual property rights. Addressing legal implications relating to content ownership is a formidable task. AI bias is an inherent risk originating from the human bias that is added to the data sets of machine learning. Elon Musk wants to address these concerns by developing 'Truth GPT', a "maximum truth-seeking AI". His vision of a harmonious fusion of technological progress and ethical considerations poses significant challenges. A multifaceted approach may be required to mitigate bias and ensure the safety and accuracy of AI models. U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said that he wants to make the U.K. the "geographical home" of AI safety regulation. It is time for India also to take a cue from the EU and make appropriate legislation about the use of AI systems.

Challenges before the CAG

The CAG faces many challenges in auditing AI systems. AI regulation and data standardisation are critical. Since the data for various government entities are taken from different sources and stored in multiple divergent platforms, the AI auditor will face enormous risks and challenges. Audits cannot be based on big data from unauthorised sources. Data integration and cross-referencing become cumbersome. The data platforms of all entities must be synchronised through the government's IT policies. According to the CAG, One Indian Audit and Accounts Department One System, a web-enabled IT application is going to support multiple languages, offline functionality, and a mobile app, enabling complete digitalisation of the audit process from April 1, 2023, with only one exception, the defence audit, because of security dimensions. The SAI G20 conference emphasised the need for a common international audit framework relating to AI.

At present, auditors can only adopt and adapt existing frameworks and regulations relating to IT. As there are limited precedents for AI use, the national audit institution needs to communicate with all the stakeholders. The existing definitions and taxonomies of AI must be examined to adopt what is legally acceptable. Since there is wide variance among AI systems and solutions, the auditor must adopt an appropriate AI design and architecture while defining the audit's objective, scope, approach, criteria, and methodology. There needs to be capacity building of auditors in varied aspects of the AI technology landscape so that they are familiar with AI frameworks, tools, and software. In the absence of explicit AI auditing guidance, auditors must focus on ethics, use authentic data sources to ensure transparency, address legal concerns, and look at deficiencies in IT controls and governance. AI audit assignments may require consultation with data scientists, data engineers, data architects, programmers, and AI specialists. AI outsourcing to third parties while using cloud computing implies the risk of third parties' having control of the infrastructure. AI domain risks such as big data, machine learning, and cybersecurity must be documented in a risk and control matrix.

Compliance issues

Global organisations have developed many AI auditing frameworks. These include the COBIT framework for AI audit, the US Government Accountability Office framework, and the COSO ERM Framework. The U.K.'s Information Commissioner's Office has published draft guidance on the AI auditing framework. Data Protection Impact Assessments are legally required if organisations use AI systems that process personal data to avoid potential risks. The AI auditor must ensure that personal data is processed in a manner that guarantees appropriate levels of security.

With few frameworks available for auditing AI, auditors can only focus on the risks, controls and governance structures that are in place to determine whether they are operating effectively.

With few frameworks available for auditing AI, auditors can only focus on the risks, controls and governance structures that are in place to determine whether they are operating effectively

Fixing the rot in the cooperative sector

Societies and urban banks are controlled by politicians with no domain expertise

STATE OF PLAY

T. Nandakumar
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The financial irregularities in the Karuvannur Service Cooperative Bank in Thrissur and the allegations of money laundering, now under investigation by the Enforcement Directorate, have blown the lid off a scandal that has struck at the very roots of the cooperative sector in Kerala. The crisis has left the Communist Party of India (Marxist)-led government floundering for a solution.

The scale of the problem became apparent when reports trickled in that several cooperative institutions had failed to return deposits on maturity, and depositors had begun queueing up for their hard-earned money. The loan scam at the Karuvannur Bank that triggered the mess came to light when customers began complaining that they were lured into a debt trap by middlemen. The ED investigation later found that the middleman named as the main accused in the Karuvannur loan scam had laundered money through other cooperative banks too, mostly controlled by the CPI(M). The agency recovered unaccounted money worth several crores that the middleman had deposited in other banks and froze his accounts.

The CPI(M) found itself on the defensive when the ED arrested a local party strongman in connection with the money laundering case. The party responded by unleashing a scathing attack on the agency, accusing it of plotting to discredit the cooperative movement in Kerala for political objectives. The ED's repeated questioning of former minister A.C. Moideen and the vice president of the Kerala Bank, M.K. Kannan, has had the CPI (M) with its back to the wall. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan blamed the ED for amplifying the Karuvannur scam to malign the cooperative sector in the State.

The Opposition United Democratic Front expressed solidarity with the investors and launched a broadside against the CPI(M), accusing it of coddling scamsters to shield tainted party leaders. But allegations of financial misappropriation in other cooperative institutions controlled by the Congress, the Indian Union Muslim League, and the CPI have only served to muddy the waters.

The rot in the cooperative sector became apparent last year when the government informed the Assembly that financial irregularities had been detected in 399 cooperative institutions over a period of six years. But the failure to act on this red flag and repair the damage has now made the situation more problematic.

The cooperative sector in the State has a two-tier structure. At the apex level is the Kerala Bank, which was formed with the merger of 14 district cooperative banks. Hundreds of primary agriculture cooperative societies and urban cooperative banks make up the second tier. The Kerala Bank has deposits to the tune of ₹70,000 crore. The deposits in the primary societies are estimated to be more than ₹1,00,000 crore, which points to the magnitude of the crisis.

With the parliamentary elections fast approaching, the government has repeatedly sought to allay the fears of depositors and promised that their investments would be protected. But the fact remains that precious little has been done to address the main issues plaguing the sector. All the societies and urban banks are controlled by local politicians with no professional expertise, and backdoor appointments are common. The lack of a proper auditing mechanism and the absence of transparency in the functioning of cooperatives are other major failures responsible for the current crisis that has severely eroded the credibility of the sector.

The government and the CPI(M) have launched a damage-control exercise focussed on finding the resources to return money to depositors. But with panic setting in among thousands of investors in cooperative institutions, quick-fix solutions cannot address the deepening crisis in the sector.

The government has to fix responsibility for the scam and ensure that the culprits are brought to book regardless of their political affiliation. The system needs to be thoroughly overhauled. Professionalism and a proper auditing system will have to be put in place to restore public confidence in the sector. In the absence of such measures, the Kerala government's opposition to the Central government's interventions in the state cooperative sector will be seen as mere political rhetoric.

Suspended Lok Sabha MP count nearly doubles during NDA terms

During the terms of UPA I and II, 50 Lok Sabha MPs were suspended; the count increased to 94 during the terms of NDA I and II

DATA POINT

Jasmin Nihalani

The special session of Parliament began on a positive note with the passing of the women's reservation Bill. However, the new beginning was stained when, on September 21, Lok Sabha MP Ramesh Bidhuri of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) hurled communal slurs and abuse at Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) member Kunwar Danish Ali in the Lok Sabha.

Mr. Bidhuri was let off with a warning by Speaker Om Birla and his remarks were expunged from the Lok Sabha records, while the Opposition pressed for his suspension. On September 28, seven days after Mr. Bidhuri made the remarks, the complaints against him were referred to the Lok Sabha's Privileges Committee, which comprises a majority of BJP members.

Data show that members from non-BJP parties have been suspended for less severe offences in the recent past. While referring to the Mahabharata, Congress member Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury had said that the "king" should not be blind to what is happening against women, "whether in Hastinapur or Manipur." He was suspended on August 10 for "gross, deliberate and repeated misconduct." The Privileges Committee revoked his suspension on August 30. Earlier, on July 24, Rajya Sabha chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar suspended Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) member Sanjay Singh for the remainder of the monsoon session after Mr. Singh rushed to the well of the House and pointed at the Chair amid sloganeering by Opposition MPs.

Chart 1 shows the session-wise suspension of members in each term of the last four Lok Sabhas (UPA-I, from 2004 to 2009; UPA-II, from 2009 to 2014; NDA-I, from 2014 to 2019; and NDA-II, from 2019 to present). Each dot corresponds to a member who was suspended during the session of a specific term.

As seen in the chart, there is a difference in the number of suspensions carried out during the UPA's terms and the NDA's terms. There have been 144 suspensions in the Lok Sabha in the past four terms. The first 10-year period saw 50 suspensions, while the remaining 94 suspensions (65%) took place during the NDA's terms.

There is also an increasing trend of members being suspended en masse. The 16th Lok Sabha, elected in 2014, saw the highest number of suspensions (81) with 49 members being suspended in the 16th session alone. A party-wise split shows that the majority of suspended members belonged to the Congress, the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) and the TDP (Telugu Desam Party). No BJP members have been suspended during the NDA's terms.

In contrast, eight Congress MPs of erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh were suspended in 2012, during the 15th Lok Sabha elected in 2009, for shouting slogans and unruly behaviour.

The Rajya Sabha has seen 55 suspensions between 2006 and 2023. Seven members were suspended in 2010 and 48 members have been suspended from 2020 onwards.

The highest number of those suspended belonged to the Trinamool Congress (13), followed by the Congress (10), and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and the Aam Aadmi Party with six each.

The Rajya Sabha also witnessed the highest number of single-batch suspensions in session number 257 (2022). The members were suspended for rushing to the Well of the House and demanding a discussion on price rise and a rollback of the Goods and Services Tax on daily essentials.

Chart 2 shows the session-wise number of members suspended.

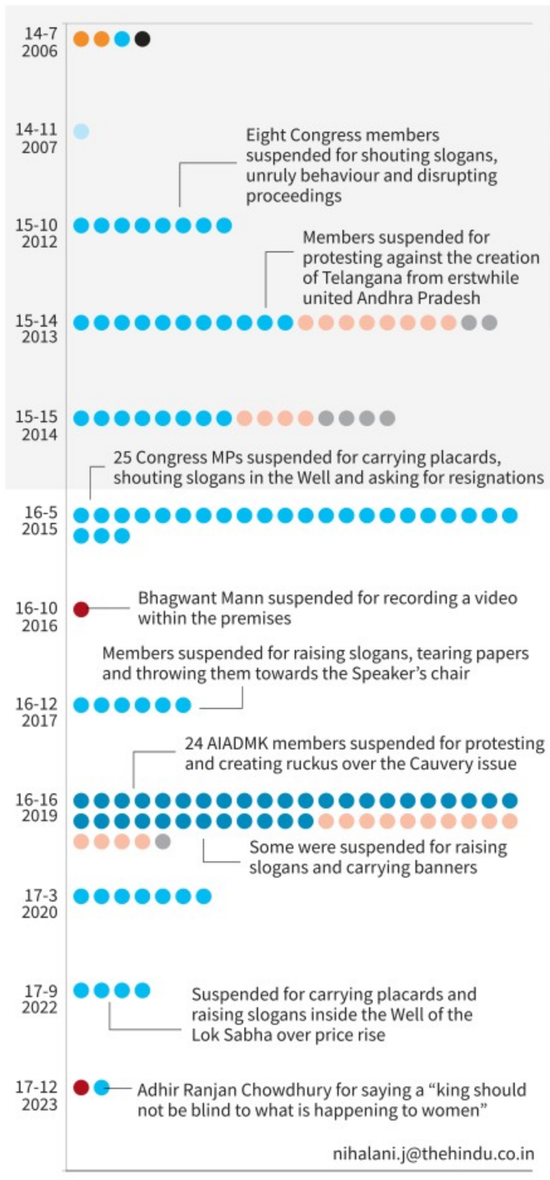
Stormy sessions and suspensions

The data for the charts were sourced from the bulletins and Resume of Work Done by Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

Chart 1: The chart shows the session-wise suspension of members in each Lok Sabha term. Each dot corresponds to a member who was suspended in a specific term's session.

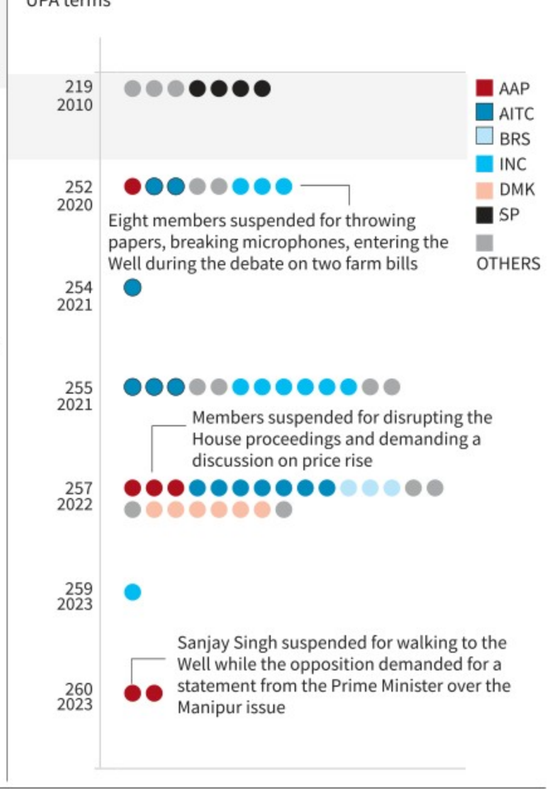
AAP AIADMK BJP INC RJD SP TDP YSRCP

Y-axis shows the Lok Sabha number and the session in which the MPs were suspended. For example, two MPs were suspended in the 17th Lok Sabha's 12th session (denoted as 17-12 on the Y axis). The shaded region denotes two terms of the UPA.



Touching new lows: Lok Sabha MP Ramesh Bidhuri who used communal slurs against MP Kunwar Danish Ali. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Chart 2: The chart shows the session-wise number of members suspended. The highlighted region shows the two UPA terms



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FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO OCTOBER 4, 1973

Big fall in raw silk prices

Bangalore, Oct. 3: Prices of raw silk in Mysore, which accounts for almost the whole of the country's mulberry silk, have crashed leading the State Government and the Central Silk Board to concert immediate measures for the stabilisation of prices.

The Chief Minister, Mr. D. Devaraj Urs, told pressmen here to-day the State Government had requested the Central Board to fix and announce the floor and ceiling prices of raw silk immediately and had asked the State Raw Silk Marketing Federation to enter the market for the purchase of raw silk at those prices.

The Chief Minister also had discussions with representatives of the Central Silk Board on the measures to combat the slump in raw silk trade with its repercussions on the grower, reeler and weaver.

Mr. Urs also asked the Board to move the Centre to lift the ban on raw silk export at least temporarily so that the situation would ease and the prices stabilise.

Mysore produces almost 20 lakh kg of raw silk a year. The official explanation for the slump in the prices is that in view of the favourable crop the market arrivals of cocoons had been considerable.

The Chief Minister also said that silk merchants and private credit channels which were traditionally advancing funds to cocoon growers and others had suddenly stopped the advances leading to a further drop in price. For instance, the price of domestic basin silk had fallen by Rs 75 to Rs 80 a kg and of charka silk by Rs 80 to Rs 90 a kg. Cocoon prices which were ruling at Rs 22 a kg had come down to Rs 14.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO OCTOBER 4, 1923

Ban on the "Hindu"

The "Bombay Chronicle" to hand to-day writes: The Hyderabad State has found at least one champion in its proscription of the "Hindu" and that is that great protagonist of "peace and order" – the Englishman. Defending the action of the State, this journal says that "it is not the 'duty' of any journal to lend its columns to stirring up controversy in a neighbouring State, or to the abuse of its officials. Such journals ought to be prohibited in the interests of peace and order." We suppose the columns of our Calcutta contemporary are immaculately clean on any attempts to stir up 'controversy' in Indian States or attacks on their officials.

From Page One

NewsClick founder arrested under UAPA

The FIR was registered days after *The New York Times* published a report on August 8 that the portal received money from American businessman Neville Roy Singham to spread Chinese propaganda.

The allegations are already under investigation by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) since 2021. The ED has accused the company of money laundering, claiming that the portal received ₹77 crore as foreign remittance between the years 2018-21.

One of the persons whose phone and laptop was seized by the police in an early morning raid told *The Hindu* that she was asked about her visit to Shaheen Bagh area in southeast Delhi in 2020, which was the hub of protest against the passage of the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 (CAA), a legislation that fasttracks citizenship of undocumented non-Muslim immigrants from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

Another contributor who was questioned at Special Cell's office in South Delhi said that he was asked about his involvement in student politics, particularly at the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU).

"I was also asked if I have done any report regarding Khalistani activities. They asked if I received phone calls from Poland, Australia and the U.K.," the journalist said, on condition of anonymity.

The questioning of the men was done at the Special Cell office for 6-10 hours after their homes were searched. The women were questioned at their homes.

Senior journalist Paranjoy Guha Thakurta said he was questioned for around 10 hours.

The other journalists and contributors who were questioned included Urmilesh, Abhisar Sharma, Bhasha Singh, Subodh Varma, Sanjay Rajoura, Aunindyo Chakraborty and Sohail Hashmi.

During the day, the police sealed the Sainik Farms office of the news portal. All staffers, including junior employees of the portal, were questioned by the police. A journalist said he has been asked to appear before the police again in the next few days.

Modi says he rejected KCR's request in 2020

"Have you noticed why KCR stopped receiving me of late, after showering me with huge garlands and shawls earlier? After we won majority seats in GHMC [Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation] council, he came to seek our support. But I declined as I did not want to cheat the people of Telangana, and instead opted to sit in the Opposition," he claimed.

Mr. Modi said he had also questioned KCR about corruption and dynasty rule in his party, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS). "KCR also wanted to hand over to [his son] KTR [or K.T. Rama Rao], but I told him this is democracy and not a kingship where he can handover power to his son," he said.

He claimed that the BRS and Congress now have a secret understanding for the forthcoming polls. The Congress, which has been banished in the rest of the country, is trying to make a backdoor entry by making big promises which it never intends to keep, he added.

In what seemed to be a dig against the Opposition's demands for a caste census, Mr. Modi said that, for him, there was no bigger caste than poverty. It was his dream, resolve and commitment to eradicate poverty, and he would do it, he vowed.

"Helping poor is social justice to me. I appeal with folded hands to all parties to discuss measures to help the poor and take the country towards path of all round development," the PM said. His government's efforts to help the poor are reflected in the NITI Aayog's statistics, which showed significant poverty reduction, he added.

INDIA bloc takes exception to targeting of media outlets

Opposition parties condemn early-morning searches on journalists linked to *NewsClick*; they urge the BJP government to focus attention on genuine issues plaguing the country and its people

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Strongly condemning the early-morning searches on journalists linked to the online news portal *NewsClick*, the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) on Tuesday said the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government should focus on genuine issues concerning the nation and stop attacking the media to distract attention from its failures.

The BJP government has been deliberately persecuting and suppressing the media by deploying investigation agencies, it said.

Such action was taken in the past against the BBC, *Newslaundry*, *Dainik Bhaskar*, *Bharat Samachar*, *The Kashmir Walla*, *The Wire*, and so on. The raids at the homes of journalists associated with the NewsClick follows this sequence, the INDIA bloc said in a joint statement.

"In the national interest, it would behove the BJP government to focus on genuine issues of concern to the nation and the people, and stop attacking the media to distract attention from its failures," it said.

Surprise visit: Security officers carry material confiscated after police searched the office of the news portal *NewsClick* in New Delhi on Tuesday. AP

Several Opposition parties separately condemned the Delhi Police action against the journalists.

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury said laptops and mobile phones of journalists were seized without even explaining the charges against them. The CPI(M) Polit Bureau, in a statement, called for a united protest by "all Indian democratic minded patriots" against "such a systematic conspiracy to target, persecute and suppress the media that is meant to be the conscience keeper".

Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera said the searches were a "fresh distraction from the explosive findings of caste census in Bihar and the growing demand for caste census across the country". "When he [Prime Minister Narendra Modi] faces questions from out of syllabus, he resorts to the only counter he has in his predictable syllabus – DISTRACTION," Mr. Khera said on social media platform X.

The Opposition questioned the government's democratic credentials. Former CM of Jammu and Kashmir Mehbooba Mufti wrote on X: "GOI claims India is the mother of democracy & about press freedom abroad yet in the same breath uses state agencies to crackdown on the remaining handful of independent media outlets."

Probe agencies are independent: I&B Minister on searches

The Hindu Bureau
BHUBANESWAR

Anurag Thakur

Reacting to the Delhi Police's searches on houses of journalists associated with the news portal *NewsClick* on Tuesday, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said investigating agencies were independent and they acted according to the law.

"I don't have to justify the raids. If someone has committed any wrong, investigating agencies do act on them. Nowhere it is written that if you have wrongfully acquired wealth and committed offence, the investigating agencies would not take action," Mr. Thakur said when asked if he justified the government action with regards to searches on journalists.

"Investigating agencies are independent. They act according to law," he said. Mr. Thakur, along with Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, was addressing a press conference here.

Similarly, reacting to the caste census in Bihar, the I&B Minister said, "Bihar caste census came yesterday. It is difficult to comment on the census outcome when one has not gone through the report in detail."

He, however, said, "No one has the kind of vision PM possesses. Implementation of pro-poor programmes demonstrates the fact that Mr. Modi does what he promises."

"The Modi government is committed to the values of *Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayaas* (Everyone's support, everyone's development and everyone's trust with everyone's effort)," Mr. Thakur said.

The Union Minister said India is going to receive huge investment following the materialisation of the proposed India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor and the project would help establish direct contacts between India and many countries.

ULFA(I) group kills two of its senior members

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The outlawed United Liberation Front of Asom (Independent) killed two of its senior members, including a woman, for allegedly carrying out activities against the extremist group.

Lachit Hazarika, alias 'Brigadier' Salim, and Nayanmoni Chetia, alias Bornali, were given "capital punishment" on September 20, a statement issued by the outfit said on Tuesday.

The Paresh Baruah-led ULFA(I) prescribed killing of the duo on September 18 for "more than 17 offences" including spying for Indian armed forces, blackmailing, trying to split the organisation, and destroying firearms, radio sets, and other assets of the organisation.

The two were given ample opportunities to mend their ways, the ULFA(I) statement said.

Media bodies slam *NewsClick* search, call it attempt to 'muzzle' free media

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Media bodies on Tuesday described the police action against those associated with the *NewsClick* news portal as yet another attempt to "muzzle" the freedom of the press, expressing solidarity with the journalists whose premises were searched.

The Press Club of India, which demanded that the government should come out with the details of the matter, held a spontaneous protest meeting against the multiple searches.

"The meeting resolved to continue protest by several journalists bodies for defending media freedom," it said through its X (formerly Twitter) handle.

The Editors Guild of India (EGI) executive committee released a statement expressing concern over the searches at the residences of senior journalists. "Their laptops, mobile phones and other devices have been seized. Senior journalists have been taken into custody by the Delhi Police, allegedly for 'questioning.' Media reports suggest that the searches have been widespread," it said.

'Follow due process'

Noting that the police action pertained to an FIR registered under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and other provisions relating to criminal conspiracy and disruption of communal harmony, the EGI said, "While we recognise that the law must take its course if actual offences are involved, the due process has to be followed."

The EGI said: "The investigation of specific offences must not create a general atmosphere of intimidation under the shadow of draconian laws, or impinge on the freedom of expression and the raising of dissenting and critical voices. We remind the government of the importance of an independent media in a functioning democracy, and urge it to ensure that the fourth pillar is respected, nurtured and protected."

> We remind the govt. of the importance of an independent media, and urge it to ensure that the fourth pillar is respected, nurtured and protected
> **EDITORS GUILD OF INDIA**

The National Alliance of Journalists, the Delhi Union of Journalists and the Kerala Union of Working Journalists (Delhi Unit) also condemned the police searches on the premises of Bhasha Singh, Urmilesh, Prabir Purkayastha, Paranjoy Guha Thakurta, Teesta Setalvad, Abhisar Sharma, Aunindyo Chakraborty, Mahesh Kumar, Subodh Varma, Aditi Nigam, Mukund Jha and others.

"The government has been targeting *Newsclick* apparently after the coverage this news portal gave to the issues of workers and farmers. We believe that this is yet another attempt by the Centre to muzzle the freedom of press," said a joint statement.

"Unfortunately, journalists are being targeted for furthering the political agenda of the ruling party. We condemn this with the strongest possible words. We will stand with these journalists in this matter. We urge the Centre to immediately stop this attack on press freedom," the statement read.

DIGIPUB, in its statement, said: "This coordinated action of the police against news professionals clearly violates due process and fundamental rights. This has taken the government's pattern of arbitrary and intimidatory behaviour to a whole other level."

SC query over violation of privacy of an accused

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Enforcement Directorate whether a bail condition imposed by the Delhi High Court on an accused to share the Google Maps pin of his location with the police amounts to violation of his right to privacy.

The High Court had granted bail to Raman Bhuraria, an auditor, on February 8 this year. He was arrested by the investigative agency in connection with a money laundering probe over an alleged financial irregularity of ₹3,269 crore against Shakti Bhog Foods Ltd.

The High Court had imposed several bail conditions, including that Mr. Bhuraria "drop a Google pin location from his mobile phone to the Investigating Officer concerned which shall be kept operational throughout his bail."

PUCL slams Delhi searches at *NewsClick*

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) has condemned the Delhi searches on journalists and media houses. The organisation urged the Centre to stop criminalising journalists.

In a statement, PUCL leaders Kavita Stivastava and V. Suresh condemned the search on journalists connected with *NewsClick* and other media professionals.

"What is alarming is the manner in which the Delhi Police seized all the data in the journalists' electronic devices, in several instances, without even providing a hash value, thereby compromising the integrity of their data," it added.

Trinamool team dragged out of Krishi Bhavan; Minister refuses meeting

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Trinamool Congress's two-day protest in the national capital demanding reversal of fund cuts in rural welfare schemes concluded with high drama on Tuesday. A delegation of the party's MPs and West Bengal Ministers, led by the party's national general secretary, Abhishek Banerjee, were dragged out by security personnel from Krishi Bhavan at 9.30 p.m., and detained by the Delhi Police, three hours after their appointment with Minister of State for Rural Development Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti failed to materialise.

The delegation continued to sit at the Ministry's office. The Trinamool had been told that only five persons should come for the meeting with the Minister, but 30 MPs and 10 Ministers, along with MGNREGS beneficiaries denied wages, turned up.

Trinamool supporters staging a protest alleging a lack of fund allocation for MGNREGA, in New Delhi on Tuesday. ANI

In a post on X, Ms. Jyoti said the Trinamool brought party workers claiming them to be beneficiaries, which was against the "office rules".

'War-like deployment'

Earlier in the day, the party had sat on a day-long dharna at Jantar Mantar, where Mr. Banerjee issued an ultimatum to the government, saying that this was only the first round of protest in the capital.

"If the Centre fails to release the pending dues within two months, over one lakh people from West Bengal will take to the streets in Delhi," he said. He said the police had been deployed at the protest site, as if an "India-China" war was going on.

He said the Union government was spending thousands of crores on aircraft and the New Parliament Building, but is not paying dues to workers. Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah as "feudal lords", he attacked the BJP's State leadership holding them responsible for "snatching food from poor".

Teacher beaten up in Gujarat over *namaz* row

The Hindu Bureau
AHMEDABAD

The Gujarat government on Tuesday ordered an investigation after students in a private school in Ahmedabad were asked to "perform" *namaz* as part of practices of all religions.

Activists of right-wing groups held a protest, and a teacher was beaten up in the school in Ghatlodia, which is Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel's Assembly constituency. The school management apologised and explained that no student was forced to perform *namaz* and the activity was part of the exercise to make the students aware of forms of prayers of different religions.

Farooq Abdullah calls for protest on Oct. 10

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah chaired a meeting of Opposition parties in Jammu on Tuesday and called for a joint protest on October 10 against the "trampling of constitutional rights" of people of the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by Jammu-based parties and the constituents of the Peoples Alliance for the Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), an amalgam formed for a joint fight to restore the pre-August 5, 2019 status of J&K.

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti also attended the meeting.

APPEAL

Sivani is 8 years old girl suffering from Aplastic Anemia. She has to under go Bone Marrow Transplantation at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. Her family is extremely poor and cannot afford the huge expenditure of Rs.12,00,000/-. Kindly donate as she needs your support. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & Google Pay (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/c No.: 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **Women's Welfare Syndicate** is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through **WWS,** Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No.GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 28235324/ 7338978027. E-Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com** Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org

WWS

With justice question back, BJP's harmony platform faces fresh challenge

NEWS ANALYSIS

Varghese K. George
NEW DELHI

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) established the Samajik Samrasta Manch (social harmony forum) in 1983 in an open effort to reach out to the subaltern caste groups. The Sangh reportedly considered the word *samata* (equality) in place of *samrasta* (harmony) before finalising the name. For the past 40 years, caste politics in the northern plains has grappled with this contest between the ideals of harmony and equality and between hierarchy and justice.

Harmony does not necessarily mean justice; in fact, pursuit of justice can get contentious, and can even cause violence. Harmony does not necessarily mean the end of hierarchy or inequality.

The RSS and the BJP, which set out to build Hindu unity, had to deal with this challenge.

Social justice parties that mobilised subaltern social groups grew stronger around the same time the RSS started this effort. Depending on the context, leadership and time, justice and harmony alternated as the priority of the subaltern masses in the past four decades.

Whenever the slogan of Hindu unity got the upper hand, the BJP won; whenever the justice question came on top, it faced setbacks.

In 2015, for instance, the BJP faced defeat in Bihar after RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat called for a debate on caste reservation.

The BJP's totalising ambitions appeared successful with the 2014 victory but the 2015 setback indicated the fragility of it.

Whenever the slogan of Hindu unity got the upper hand, the BJP won; whenever the justice question came on top, it faced setbacks.

The Sangh Parivar has evolved with regard to the caste question. "We kept our own fellow human beings behind in the social system. We did not care for them, and it continued for 2,000 years...Until we provide them equality, some special remedies have to be there, and reservations is one of them. Hence, reservations have to continue till there is such discrimination. We, at the RSS, give all support to the reservations provided in the Constitution," Mr. Bhagwat said last month.

Losing grip

On the one hand, the RSS and the BJP were responding to subaltern ambitions, and on the other, the social justice parties were struggling to live up to their promise. Reduced to single-caste, single-family parties, most of them, including the Rashtriya Janata Dal in Bihar and the Samajwadi Party in Uttar Pradesh, lost grip over the wide coalition of intermediary castes they had started with. Numerous new parties emerged, scattering the social justice spectrum. Several of them joined hands with the BJP.

While claiming itself as the best party for the OBCs, the BJP was, however, clearly mindful of its core upper caste voters. This commitment led it to the 10% quota for the Economically Weaker Sections, which, in effect, is one for the upper castes.

Meanwhile, Rahul Gandhi has taken the Congress into the battle for caste justice that it has shied away from all these years. The caste survey conducted by the Nitish Kumar-Tejashwi Yadav government of Bihar is a blunt attack on the delicate, hierarchical harmony at the core of BJP politics, by restoring the question of justice at the centre of caste relations. That sounds the bugle for 2024. The BJP had anticipated this and will have tricks up its sleeve.

Demand for caste census set to fuel Opposition campaign

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

The survey provides them with an agenda that resonates with a significant section of the population

With the Bihar caste survey, the Opposition feels that it has been handed over a self-propagating campaign for the 2024 election, especially after Prime Minister Narendra Modi said at a rally in Chhattisgarh that the biggest community in the country is the "poor".

It materially changes three things for the Opposition – provides them with an agenda that resonates with a significant section of the population, confronts Mr. Modi's carefully cultivated image of being pro-Other Backward Classes (OBC) and reinvents caste-based politics in a way that will reinvigorate the parties born out of the Mandal movement.

"Bihar has shown the way. Now, whatever reasons the Narendra Modi government may list to avoid a caste census will not be acceptable to the public. And it can not deny that there is a need to assess numerical strength and socio-economic status of caste groups," RJD leader Shivanand Tiwari said. There will be demand from across the country in all States for a similar exercise, he asserted.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi at the last meeting of the INDIA bloc in Mumbai had said that the Opposition must confront Mr. Modi's image as a champion of OBC. Now, they have the perfect tool for it.

"By refusing to hold a caste census, the BJP government is choosing to ignore the historical discrimination and its socio-economic impact on the OBC, clearly exposing its anti-backward class character," senior Congress leader Rajeev Gowda said.

The survey once again highlights the caste cleavages that electorally were subdued by the BJP's sustained campaign to unite all castes under the Hindutva umbrella.

"The fact that he is choosing to nullify caste as a factor and instead frame the equation as rich versus poor suits us. It is a battle for economic-social justice. When we are asking for a caste census, we are basically demanding the data to help for equitable distribution of the State's resources," JD(U) leader K.C. Tyagi said.

Poor should have first right to nation's resources: Modi

PM asks what will happen to religious minorities if rights are proportional to population share; countering Cong., he questions whether party wants majority Hindus to usurp minority rights

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Questioning the Congress's proposition that the rights of a community should be in proportion to its numbers in a society, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday asserted that the poor should have the first right to the country's resources as they formed the biggest chunk of the population.

Mr. Modi was addressing a public meeting in Chhattisgarh's Jagdalpur, a day after the Nitish Kumar-led Bihar government released a caste survey revealing that people from the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs) constituted a whopping 63% of Bihar's population. The Congress has hailed the findings of the survey, with party leader Rahul Gandhi saying that a nationwide caste-based census is needed to ensure representation in accordance with the population.

"Since yesterday, Congress has started singing a new tune. Congress leaders say more the population, greater the rights. I say that the largest population in this country is that of the poor. Therefore, for me the poor are the biggest [chunk of the] population and the welfare of the poor is my aim," he said.

Counter point: Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing a rally at Jagdalpur in Bastar district of Chhattisgarh on Tuesday. PTI

Manmohan's speech

Referring to an old speech by his predecessor Manmohan Singh, he asked whether the Congress emphasis on numbers meant that the party wanted the majority Hindu population to usurp the rights of minority communities.

"I was wondering, what would former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh be thinking? He used to say that the minorities, and that too Muslims, have the first right on the country's resources. Now Congress is saying that the population will decide who should have the first right. Now does Congress want to reduce the rights of minorities?" he asked.

"If it would be determined according to the population, whose population is more," he asked. "Congress should clarify whether the rights will be given according to the population. So does Congress want to remove the minorities?" he said.

Mr. Modi alleged that the "Congress wants to destroy India by dividing the Hindus of the country at any cost" and that it wanted to divide the poor.

He reiterated his earlier allegation that the party was not being run by Congress people but had outsourced the job to outsiders. "Congress is being run by people who are in league with anti-national forces," he said.

Making a play on the Hindi words, he accused the Congress of converting *loktantra* (democracy) to *lootantra* (corruption), and *prajatantra* (democracy) to *parivartantra* (dynasty).

The Congress – supported by its INDIA bloc partners, including the members of Bihar's ruling coalition – have been demanding a caste census, and the findings of the Bihar caste survey have intensified their demand. On Monday, at a rally in Gwalior, the Prime Minister had said that his political opponents were committing the sin of dividing the society along caste lines. In other public meetings, too, he has targeted the Opposition over their demands to include an OBC quota within the women's reservation law, accusing them of conspiring to divide women in power.

EWS ruling may help case for breaching 50% quota ceiling

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Arguments employed by the Supreme Court in its majority verdict to uphold the 10% economically weaker sections (EWS) quota for the "poorest of the poor" among forward castes can paradoxically become a stimulus for the backward classes to seek reservation over and above the 50% ceiling limit on the basis of the data published after the Bihar caste-based survey.

The EWS judgment had excluded the "poorest of the poor" among the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes from the ambit of 10% quota.

The majority 3:2 judgment had held that the EWS quota did not breach the ceiling limit of 50% placed by the *Indira Sawhney* judgment on reservations as the State can make "special provisions from time to time in the march towards an all-inclusive egalitarian society".

In his lead opinion for the majority on the Bench in the *EWS quota* case, Justice Dinesh Maheshwari (now retired) concluded that the 50% ceiling limit, though held attached to the constitutional requirements, was neither "inflexible nor inviolable for all times to come". Further reservation by affirmative action by the State cannot be seen as damaging the Basic Structure of the Constitution. The judge agreed that a mathematical precision of 50% was difficult to follow in human affairs.

"In the case of proportional equality the State is expected to take affirmative steps in favour of disadvantaged sections of the society within the framework of liberal democracy," Justice Maheshwari had quoted from the *M. Nagaraj* judgment.

The Bihar survey data released on Monday show that the Other Backward Classes and the Extremely Backward Classes together constituted 63% of the population of the State.

The *EWS* judgment showed that even the *Indira Sawhney* verdict had said the ceiling limit was not cast in iron.

The *EWS* order of November 2022 had cited a plethora of top court verdicts to buttress its case that the 50% limit could be crossed if necessary.

The verdict had supported the view that all the courts needed to examine was whether reservation was so excessive as to become oppressive, leading to unfair exclusion.

Nitish holds all-party meet over caste survey report

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

A day after Bihar government released the caste survey report, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Tuesday held an all-party meeting to apprise them of the outcomes of the survey. The survey revealed the Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs) to be the largest group in Bihar.

The Opposition BJP and a few other parties raised objections over "faults and defects" in the released report, after which the Chief Minister reportedly asked officials to look into them.

According to sources, Mr. Kumar informed those at the meeting that "socio-economic profile of castes will be provided to all political parties ahead of upcoming Winter Session of the State Assembly".

"At the meeting, we raised objections over some *kami aur khami* (defects and faults) in the survey report. The Chief Minister asked officials to look into our objections," Leader of the Opposition in Assembly and BJP leader Vijay Kumar Sinha said.

Cong. distances itself from Singhvi's X post on caste-based survey

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday questioned how Prime Minister Narendra Modi could claim to be a leader from the Other Backward Classes (OBC) community if his government would not conduct a caste survey.

The party also distanced itself from the now-deleted comments of Abhishek Singhvi who, in a post on X, had said that the formula of ensuring rights "proportionate to the strength of a community" would lead to "majoritarianism".

Capitan Ajay Yadav (retired), who heads the party's OBC department, asserted that Bihar caste survey would change the direction of politics as well as policy. "Modi *ji* says that he is an OBC leader as he is from the Teli community. He must be a fake OBC, or else he would have conducted a caste census," he said. He said that the last caste census from which data was made public was held in 1931, when OBCs were reported to be 52% of the population.

"Now, the Bihar data shows it to be 63%, an 11% jump," he noted.

While top Congress leaders, including former party chief Rahul Gandhi, held that the rights of a community should be proportionate to its population share, CWC member Mr. Singhvi had taken a different line. In a now deleted post, he had said that "equality of opportunities is never the same as the equality of outcomes".

"People endorsing #jitniabadiutnahaq have to first completely understand the consequences of it. It will eventually culminate into majoritarianism," he had said. Mr. Yadav rejected this formula and said, "This is not the party line." Congress leader Jairam Ramesh also said that Mr. Singhvi's post may be a reflection of his personal views. "...in no way does it reflect the position of the Indian National Congress – the essence of which is contained both in the Raipur Declaration on 26th February, 2023 and in the CWC Resolution of September 16th, 2023," he said.

SC to hear plea on Bihar caste survey on October 6

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said it will hear petitions challenging the legality of the caste-based survey held in Bihar, on October 6. A Bench headed by Justice Sanjiv Khanna informed Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, who is appearing for the Union government in the case.

The Union government had maintained that only the Centre and "no other body" was entitled to conduct "either census or any action akin to census" in its reply to the Supreme Court on the Bihar government's caste-based survey.

"The subject of census is covered in the Union List under Entry 69 in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution," the Office of the Registrar General, Home Ministry, said in a two-page affidavit.

Earlier, the Supreme Court had refused to stay the uploading of data collected in the recently concluded caste-based survey.

The Patna High Court, on August 1, had upheld the legality of the survey.

Govt. of Rajasthan
Directorate Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)
Women & Child Development Department
2 Jalpath, Gandhi Nagar, Rajasthan, Jaipur
Phone No. 0141-2713609 website: www.wcd.rajasthan.gov.in
क्रमांक-F.26(4)() Aaadhaar (ASK)/IEC/ICDS/2023-24/129874 दिनांक 14.09.2023
e-TENDER NOTICE
No.5/2023-24
e-Bid is invited for establishment of Aadhaar Seva Kendra (ASK) at CDPO Offices for the Aadhaar Enrollment and updation of children of age group 0-5 year registered at Anganwadi Centers upto 02.00 PM on 04.10.2023. Details may be seen and Bid Document may be downloaded from websites eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and www.wcd.rajasthan.gov.in. This bid shall be processed through e-procurement portal (eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) of Govt. of Rajasthan. Estimated value of the procurement is Rs. 15.00 crore.
NIB No. ICD
UBN No. ICD
DIPR/C/14348
Director,
Integrated Child Development Services

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD
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Website: www.pspcl.in (Contact No. 96461-22185)
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Dy. CE/Substation (Design) / TS Organization, C-1, Shakti Vihar PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for Design, Manufacture, Testing and Supply of 3 Nos. 5T Capacity Truck Mounted Mobile Cranes-Cum-Loaders. For detailed NIT & Tender specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 05.10.2023 (11:00 AM onwards).
NOTE:- Corrigendum and amendments, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**
C - 709/23 **76155/12/2256/2023/28420**

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(A Govt. of Gujarat Undertaking)
Nigam Bhavan, 1st floor, sector-16
Gandhinagar-382016, Gujarat
Tender Notice
The tender is invited by Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Ltd. (TCGL), for the appointment of agency for DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM BASED INFRASTRUCTURE AROUND WORLD HERITAGE SITE DHOLAVIRA, GUJARAT Estimated Cost of the Project Rs.66,29,13,556/- Including five year (O&M) Including The interested bidders/agencies may download the tender document form the website: www.nprocure.com from 04/10/2023 onward. Last date of submission on online: 25/10/2023 upto 3.00 pm.Tender may also be referred on www.gujarattourism.com.
Managing Director of TCGL reserves the right to reject or accept any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
Managing Director
TCGL

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
Department of Agriculture
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
Department of Agriculture, AP, Guntur invites bids for selection of Agencies for supply of Desktops & Laptops. For other details please visit **www.apagrisnet.gov.in** or **www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in**
Sd/- Sri. C. Hari Kiran, IAS
Special Commissioner of Agriculture
DIPR 2389PP/CL, Dt: 03-10-2023

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
IRRIGATION & CAD DEPARTMENT
Irrigation Circle, Hill Colony, Nalgonda District
Tender is invited by Irrigation Circle, Hill Colony Nalgonda District vide Notice No: 10SE/ICHC/2023-24 Dated:27.09.2023 for work "Construction of Check Dams (3 Nos) across Kanagal Vaagu near Ambatpally (V), across Kanagal River near Srinadhapuram (V) and across Haliya Vagu near Palem (V) of Anukula (M), Nalgonda (Dist)" for an ECV Rs.20,13,35,557/- is available from 30.09.2023 to 16.10.2023 at 05.00 PM and last date for receipt of bid is 16.10.2023 at 5.00 PM for further details see in e-procurement website.
Sd/- **P.V.S. Nageswar Rao, 03.10.2023, Superintending Engineer,**
Irrigation Circle: Hill Colony
DIPR R.O.No.7609-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2023-24 Dt. 03.10.2023

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Contact No. 96461-22185)
Tender Enquiry No. 290/SS(D)-II **Dated 04.10.2023**
Dy. CE/Substation Design / TS Organization, PSPCL, C-1, Shakti Vihar PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for Manufacture, Testing, Supply & Delivery of 1000 nos. 11KV VCB Panels (SCADA-Compatible).
For detailed NIT & Tender specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 04.10.2023 (09:00 AM onwards).
NOTE:- Corrigendum and amendments, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**
C - 710/23 **76155/12/2257/2023/28421**

PSPCL **Punjab State Power Corporation Limited**
(Regd. Office PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in
PUBLIC NOTICE
PSPCL has decided to avail the services of M/s Antares Systems Ltd. Banglore w.e.f. 01.10.2023 for the disposal of scrap, e-waste and other waste material through e-auction. The documents, other compliances required and General Terms & Conditions for e-auctioning of sale of scrap, obsolete, unserviceable material of PSPCL for the registration will remain same as before and are available at https://pspcl.in/e-auction-notice.aspx. All the existing registered as well as potential bidders are required to get themselves registered with M/s Antares Systems Limited, Bangalore and may contact Sh. Pavitar Singh (M-81466-99866) and Sh. Jai Prakash (M-81466-99880) c/o M/s Antares Systems Limited for registration and other login related queries. In case of any difficulty, the undersigned may be contacted on the given cell numbers.
Sr. Xen / Disposal
PSPCL, Patiala.
C-707/23 **76155/12/2254/2023/28418** **96461-19412, 96461-48165**

INBRIEF

Four earthquakes in Nepal cause tremors in North India

Four earthquakes, the strongest being of magnitude 6.2, jolted Nepal in quick succession with tremors reverberating through parts of north India including Delhi-NCR, the National Centre for Seismology (NCS) said on October 3. An NCS official said the first earthquake of magnitude 4.6 struck west Nepal at a depth of 10 kilometres at 2.25 p.m., followed by the 6.2 magnitude jolt at 2.51 p.m. Two more temblors (magnitude 3.6 and 3.1) hit the same region at a depth of 15 km and 10 km at 3.06 p.m. and 3.19 p.m., respectively. The epicentre for the strongest earthquake was 206 km southeast of Joshimath in Uttarakhand and 284 north of Uttar Pradesh's capital Lucknow. PTI

1,039 held in fresh crackdown on child marriage in Assam

The Assam police arrested 1,039 people during a fresh drive against child marriage on Tuesday. This was the second such crackdown carried out mostly in the western, central, and southern parts of the State. A total of 3,907 people - 3,319 under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act - were arrested when the drive against child marriage was launched in February. On September 11, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma told the 126-member State Assembly that 2,000 to 3,000 men would be arrested in the second phase of the drive against child marriage.

Heavy death reporting on in 2 Maharashtra hospitals

Opposition lashes out at the State government; Eknath Shinde promises detailed inquiry, says many of the dead were elderly heart patients, underweight infants and accident victims

Abhinay Deshpande
MUMBAI

With many patients dying in State-run hospitals in two districts of Maharashtra from September 30, the Opposition on Tuesday slammed the State government for "gross negligence" and called for an investigation.

Authorities confirmed an additional seven patient fatalities, including of four newborn babies, on October 1 and 2 at Dr. Shankarrao Chavan Government Medical College and Hospital in Nanded where 24 patients, including 12 newborns babies, had died earlier. At least 18 deaths occurred within 24 hours in a hospital in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar (formerly Aurangabad), allegedly due to a lack of medical help and a shortage of essential medicines.

The District Information Office, Nanded confirmed the additional fatalities. "The facts related to the death of patients at Dr. Shankarrao Chavan Government Medical College and Hospital are as follows: 24 deaths between September 30 and October 1; seven deaths between October 1 and 2. Please do not panic. A team of doctors is ready," the DIO said. (Earlier, it was reported that 24 deaths occurred with 24 hours on October 1 and 2.)

A mother comforts her ailing child at the Shankarrao Chavan Government Hospital in Nanded, Maharashtra. REUTERS

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde said the government had taken the deaths in Nanded "very seriously", and appropriate action would be taken after a detailed inquiry. "Adequate medicine stock and medical staff were available at the hospital. A significant number of patients who died were old people with heart ailments, underweight infants and accident victims," he said.

Of the 24 deaths on September 30 and October 1, 12 were infants, as revealed by hospital dean Dr. S.R. Wakode, who attempted to downplay the severity of the situation saying many of the deceased were outpatients brought in a critical condition from neighbouring districts.

"There are 142 admissions in the paediatric department of the hospital – 42 are still critical. Oxygen as well as ventilator facilities are there," he said.

State Medical Education Minister Hasan Mushrif, who visited the hospital, said that he had briefed Mr. Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis.

Sources at the hospital confirmed that the condition of 70 more adult inpatients remained critical.

"We admit over 27,000 patients a month and the average death rate is 1.1% to 1.45%. Last month, 419 deaths were reported in our hospital, of which 103 were brought in dead," Medical Superintendent at Government Medical College and Hospital, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, Dr. Vijay Kalyankar told *The Hindu*.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge called for a detailed investigation into the deaths.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray expressed deep concern and shock.

Nationalist Congress Party supremo Sharad Pawar slammed the Shinde government, and said the death highlights the failure of the government system.

Trudeau says Canada not trying to escalate diplomatic crisis

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

On a day when a foreign media report said India had asked Canada to fly back 41 diplomats employed across India by October 10, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Tuesday asserted that Canada was not trying to "escalate" the diplomatic crisis with India, and described the current phase of relation with New Delhi as "extremely challenging".

The Financial Times report citing sources indicated deepening tension between the two sides, days after the official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs reminded Canada of "parity" in the presence of diplomats in each other's missions. The report said Canada had 62 diplomats posted in India and South Block had urged Ottawa to take back 41.

The newspaper further said that India has threatened to withdraw diplomatic immunity of those Canadian diplomats who have been asked to return, if they fail to do so by October 10. India has declined to comment on the report.

Justin Trudeau

In an interaction with the media in Ottawa on Tuesday, Mr. Trudeau said it was necessary for Canada to have diplomats on the ground in India.

"Obviously, we're going through an extremely challenging time with India right now," he was quoted as saying by the *Toronto Sun* newspaper.

'Difficult time'

According to CBS News, he did not confirm the *The Financial Times* report, and said, "We're not looking to escalate, as I've said, we're going to be doing the work that matters in continuing to have constructive relations with India through this extremely difficult time."

Echoing the Prime Minister's remarks, Foreign Minister Melanie Joly said Canada wished to have a "strong diplomatic footprint" in India.

We will remain deployed in eastern Ladakh until full disengagement: IAF chief

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is looking at procuring 97 additional indigenous light combat aircraft, LCA-Mk1A, at an estimated cost of ₹1.15 lakh crore, Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari said on Tuesday.

The procurement will take the LCA-MK1A fleet strength to 180. The IAF is looking at several contracts worth ₹2.5 lakh crore to ₹3 lakh crore in the next few years, he said. The Air chief was addressing the annual press conference ahead of the 91st Air Force Day on October 8.

On the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China, he said the operational plans of the IAF were dynamic and can change as per the developing situation. He said that in places where the IAF "cannot counter in terms of numbers", it will do so through "better tactics".

V.R. Chaudhari

Acknowledging the delays in the delivery of the S-400 air defence systems from Russia due to the war in Ukraine, the Air chief said three regiments had been delivered and expressed confidence that the remaining two would be delivered next year.

To a question on the situation in eastern Ladakh, Air Chief Marshal Chaudhari said the situation remained what it was in the past one year. There have been disengagements in certain contested areas. "We will continue to remain deployed till complete disengagement takes place."

On Chinese deployment of radars near Mansarovar, he said the Air Force was looking at inducting long-range mountain radars to "see equally deep inside the adversary's territory". Noting that China and Pakistan were transferring technology, he said Pakistan was manufacturing JF-17 fighter aircraft and also inducting the J-10.

The Air Chief said the Army and the Air Force were looking at signing a contract for 156 light combat helicopters (LCH) in the coming year. Of these, 66 would be be for the Air Force.

Toilet use declining in rural India since 2018-19: WB paper

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

Low-income States were among the best in terms of their overall increase in regular use of toilets

A departmental working paper by the World Bank on the progress of the Swacch Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) has now found that despite "breathtaking" gains made by the programme to bring toilet access to rural India since 2014-15, when it began, there has been a clear trend of regular toilet use declining in rural India from 2018-19, with the largest drop being seen among Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe socio-economic groups.

These findings come amid concerns over the government's claims that practices such as open defecation and manual scavenging no longer continue in India solely based on the fact that toilet access had improved after the building of over 100 million toilets.

The paper, by researchers at the World Bank and a faculty member of economics at Yale University, reconciles varied data points on toilet access and usage from the National Family Health Surveys (NFHS), National Sample Surveys (NSS) and National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey (NARSS) and the SBM-G's own information system.

The paper also said that most low-income States were among the best performers in terms of their overall increase in regular use of toilets and that the performance of richer States was mixed.

ICMR project to accelerate cancer screening measures, treatment at district level

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

With only a few districts across India being able to effectively implement cancer screening measures in accordance with Health Ministry norms, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is gearing up to bring in remedial measures. It has invited Expressions of Interest on the implementation of research to accelerate cancer screening, early diagnosis, and treatment.

The Council noted cancer poses a significant and pressing public health challenge in India, which currently ranks third in cancer incidence after China and the United States. According to Global Cancer Observatory projections, however, India is expected to witness a substantial 57.5% increase in cancer cases between 2020 and 2040.

Council is looking at improving the coverage and quality of cancer screening. V. V. KRISHNAN

In the long run, the Council is looking at improving the coverage and quality of cancer screening through the existing healthcare system using accepted and validated methods. It plans to engage non-specialist physicians and other health care workers within a supportive healthcare system for the screening of cancer as well as pre-cancerous conditions. The Council also wants to ensure that all those who test positive are linked to facilities for early diagnosis and treatment. The involvement of local communities is key to encourage the target population to undergo screening for early diagnosis and treatment.

"Research has indicated that frontline health workers, such as Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs), have the potential to play a crucial role in promoting and conducting home-based cancer screening. Home screening has resulted in higher compliance rates because it offers the privacy and convenience necessary for individuals to participate actively in the screening process," the Council noted.

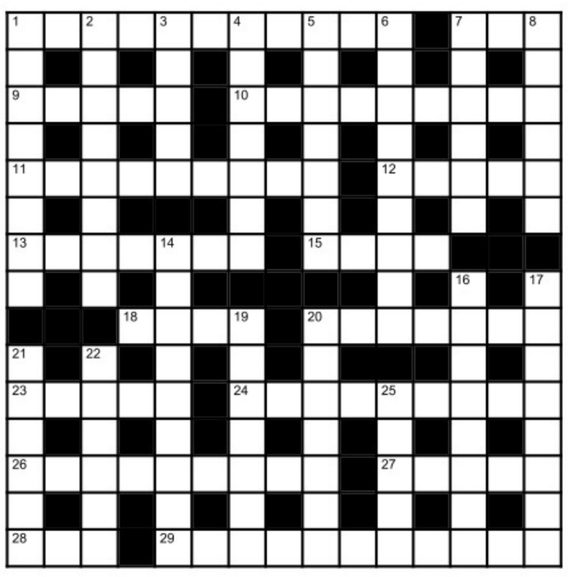
This will be a four year project, the ICMR said.

TH CROSSWORD + 13986

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Instant a sport organization becomes an old beast (11)
7 Hog right away or stole? (3)
9 Upset victory is snatched, not reacting at all (5)
10 His hold on old country mountain ranges (9)
11 Sombre inside, nothing less outside — not a whiff (9)
12 Burn one, fifty gone! (5)
13 Essentially need to keep watch over the recluse (7)
15 Criticize the bid (4)
18 Extremely stressful work on sewage water (4)
20 Old sea farers had six cards... (7)
23 ...others got one finally to turn off and on again (5)
24 Usual sides go into cheer a natural reproductive process (9)
26 Girl — one caught in the blaze, perhaps (9)
27 Reading about most cruel attack (5)
28 Toiled regularly for a match (3)
29 Mere startup making hearing aids (3,8)

Down

1 Adapted or followed around? (8)
2 Frozen, not even inches over the channel port (4,4)
3 Smallest error while handling a chemical (5)
4 Two articles allowed inside "Sportstar" (7)
5 Average return with top money invested — is it slow assimilation? (7)
6 What you need to sell? Pursue drinking few beers (5,4)
7 Further pledge, having short sight (6)
8 Writer places America between one and ten (6)
14 All I see at random, showing nervousness (3,2,4)
16 Medicine against love (8)
17 Must rise, morning is for those monster waves (8)
19 First one in port (7)
20 Told to guarantee her ticket (7)
21 Zealous with my time (6)
22 Endeavour of a father to keep quiet (6)
25 A service set up in state (5)

SUDOKU

2								
		7		1				9
		3	9		7		8	2
		5			9		1	
	7			8			2	
	1		3			7		
6	3		8		2	5		
4				3		9		
								6

No.SS5938 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

		D		R		A		O				D		
C	H	I	N	A		D	E	M	E	A	N	E	D	
A		D		N		A		A		D		L		S
S	T	A	R	D	O	M		N	A	I	V	E	S	T
T		C		O		A				P		T		U
O	T	T	O	M	A	N		P	R	O	V	E	R	B
R		I				T		A		S				S
		C	A	T	B	I	R	D	S	E	A	T		
S				H		N		D				O		E
C	O	M	P	E	T	E		Y	E	R	E	V	A	N
A		I		O				M		A		A		A
M	O	N	A	R	C	H		E	A	R	D	R	U	M
P		G		E		I		L		E		I		E
	F	L	A	M	E	N	C	O		S	I	S	A	L
		E				T		N		T		H		

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	1	5	7	8	6	9	4	2
4	7	8	2	1	9	6	5	3
2	9	6	5	4	3	1	7	8
1	6	7	9	2	8	4	3	5
5	3	4	6	7	1	2	8	9
8	2	9	4	3	5	7	6	1
6	8	2	1	5	7	3	9	4
9	4	3	8	6	2	5	1	7
7	5	1	3	9	4	8	2	6

FAITH

Enjoyment of divine bliss

Srimad Bhagavatham is considered to be the gem of all 18 puranas. It explains that we can experience divine bliss in five forms: worshipping God as a child, as a friend, as a master, as a romantic personality and as an inner self. Sri Muralidhara Swamigal said in a discourse that there are 18 authentic commentaries for Srimad Bhagavatham, and the latest is by Sri Swami Narayanji.

Though Lord Krishna was born to Devaki and Vasudeva, Yasodha and Nandhagopa brought Him up (*Enna Thavam Seidhanai Yasodha*), which shows that anyone can treat God as a child and worship. Periyazhwar, Uthukadu Venkata Kavi, and Tamil poet Bharathi have all sung praising Krishna as a child.

Great seers and saints enjoyed His divine bliss through Ashtanga Yogam, Brahma Vicharam and staunch devotion.

The cowherd clans enjoyed the same by befriending Krishna (*Itham Brahma Sukha Anubhuthaya*). Gopikas treated Him as their hero and enjoyed the divine pleasure. Pious men like Akrura treated Him as their master.

Sages like Sukha Brahmam, Rishaba Yogeeswara and Srutadeva had realised the bliss through their inner self – *Athma Swarupam* (*Brahmethi, Paramathmethi, Bhagawan ithi*).

WASHINGTON

U.S. House to vote on leadership challenge to Speaker McCarthy

AFP

The U.S. House of Representatives will vote on a leadership challenge to Speaker Kevin McCarthy by a fellow Republican that could plunge Congress into chaos. The motion was moved by Matt Gaetz, a McCarthy antagonist. If successful, it would be the first time in U.S. history that House lawmakers voted their leader out. REUTERS

WILMINGTON

Hunter Biden pleads not guilty to gun charges in Delaware court

REUTERS

U.S. President Joe Biden's son Hunter Biden pleaded not guilty to charges that he lied about his drug use while buying a handgun. He was charged last month with three counts related to lying on a federal form to acquire a Colt Cobra handgun in 2018 and for being an illegal drug user in possession of the gun. REUTERS

ANKARA

Turkey detains nearly 1,000 following suicide bomb attack

AFP

The police detained almost a thousand people in raids across Turkey on Tuesday, including dozens with alleged links to Kurdish militants and an Opposition news anchor, days after a suicide bomb attack in the Turkish capital. Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said police had carried out raids in 16 Turkish provinces. AP

BANGKOK

Thai PM launches committee to amend Army-drafted constitution

REUTERS

Thailand's Prime Minister launched a committee to amend the military-drafted constitution, but ruled out any changes to the contentious sections related to the monarchy. Srettha Thavisin's new government had come to office in August after months of political wrangling and having promised constitutional reform. AFP

Xi applauds Muizzu, vows to deepen ties with Maldives

Press Trust of India
BEIJING

Chinese President Xi Jinping on Tuesday pledged to deepen bilateral ties with the Maldives as he congratulated President-elect Mohamed Muizzu, whose party campaigned for forging close ties with Beijing.

In his message, Mr. Xi said that China and the Maldives enjoy a long history of friendly exchanges.

Mr. Xi, who visited Maldives in 2014 and announced several Chinese investments under China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) which subsequently evoked criticism of being "debt traps" by the country's Opposition parties, said the two countries are not only friends of sincere trust and mutual assistance but also partners of joint development.

He said he attaches great importance to the development of bilateral relations and stands ready to work with Mr. Muizzu to carry forward the traditional friendship, deepen practical cooperation and push for new progress in the future-oriented, all-round friendly and cooperative partnership between the two countries.

After election, Muizzu repeats his promise of ousting Indian forces

The people don't want foreign military on the atoll, says President-elect of the Maldives, who had campaigned against Indian troops' presence

Associated Press
MALE

The President-elect of the Maldives said he will stick to his campaign promise to remove Indian military personnel stationed in the archipelago state, promising he would initiate the process.

Mohamed Muizzu told his supporters gathered on Monday night at a celebration of his election victory that he wouldn't stand for a foreign military staying in the Maldives against the will of its citizens.

"The people have told us that they don't want foreign military here," he said.

Outgoing President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, who was elected President in 2018, was battling allegations by Mr. Muizzu that he had allowed India an unchecked presence in the country. Mr. Muizzu's party, the People's National Congress, is viewed as heavily pro-China.

New chapter: Maldives' President-elect Mohamed Muizzu, third from left, during a gathering with supporters in Male on Monday. AFP

Mr. Muizzu's main campaign theme was about an alleged threat to the Maldives' sovereignty by some Indian military personnel on an island, part of the party's years-long "India out" strategy.

Suspicion and rumour

Mr. Solih insisted that the Indian military's presence in the Maldives was only to build a dockyard under an agreement between the two governments and that his country's sovereignty won't be violated.

The number of Indian troops in the Maldives is unknown. Critics say the secrecy behind the agreement between the two governments regarding the placement of military personnel and their role has led to suspicion and rumour. Known activities of the Indian military include operating two helicopters donated by India and assisting in the rescue of people stranded or faced with calamities at sea.

Armenia's Parliament votes to join ICC, straining ties with ally Russia

Associated Press
YEREVAN

Armenia's Parliament voted on Tuesday to join the International Criminal Court, a move that further strains the country's ties with its old ally Russia after the court issued an arrest warrant for President Vladimir Putin over events in Ukraine.

Moscow last month called Yerevan's effort to join the ICC an "unfriendly step," and the Russian Foreign Ministry summoned Armenia's Ambassador.

Countries that have signed and ratified the Rome Statute that created the ICC are bound to arrest Mr. Putin, who was indicted for war crimes connected to the deportation of children from Ukraine, if he sets foot on their soil.

Despite the ICC warrant against Putin, Armenia said the Russian President would not be arrested if he entered the country. AP

Armenia later sought to assure Russia that Mr. Putin would not be arrested if he entered the country.

Still, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov called on Tuesday's decision "incorrect," saying it will raise "additional questions" in Moscow, even though Armenia is "our ally, a friendly state, our partner, and a lot unites us with the brotherly Armenian people."

Asked if Mr. Putin would have to refrain from travelling to Armenia, he added: "Of course, we wouldn't want the President to have to ever, for whatever reason, refuse a visit to Armenia." A diplomatic solution is needed and will be discussed with Yerevan, he said.

Armenia's disclaimer

Armenian officials have argued the move has nothing to do with Russia and was prompted by what they call Azerbaijan's aggression against the country.

Lawmakers voted to ratify the Rome Statute by a vote of 60-22. The decision after that is to be submitted to Armenia's President, who must prepare a ratification document, which is then deposited with the UN secretary-general.

The decision comes into force 60 days after the ratification, according to Armenian lawmakers.

Armenia's relations with Russia have frayed significantly in recent years.

Trio wins Nobel Prize in physics for finding a way to 'see' electrons

Agence France-Presse
STOCKHOLM

France's Pierre Agostini, Hungarian-Austrian Ferenc Krausz and French-Swedish Anne L'Huillier won the Nobel Prize in physics on Tuesday for research using ultra-quick light flashes that enable the study of electrons inside atoms and molecules.

Their technique employs pulses measured in attoseconds, a unit so short that there are as many in one second as there have been seconds since the universe's birth over 13 billion years ago, the jury said.

The laureates' research has made it possible to examine moves or changes so rapid that they were previously impossible to follow, with potential applications in both electronics and medical diagnostics.

Members of the Royal Academy of Sciences announce this year's Nobel Prize winners in Physics in Stockholm on Tuesday. REUTERS

An anecdote

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences likened the process to how the flapping wings of a humming bird turn into a blur for the human eye, but can be slowed and examined using high-speed photography.

"We can now open the door to the world of electrons. Attosecond physics gives us the opportunity to understand mechanisms that are governed by electrons," Eva Olsson, chair of the Nobel Committee for Physics, said.

In 1987, Ms. L'Huillier "discovered that many different overtones of light arose when she transmitted infrared laser light through a noble gas," the Nobel Committee noted.

In the early 2000s, Mr. Agostini and Mr. Krausz worked on experiments that made it possible to isolate light pulses that lasted only a few hundred attoseconds.

Mr. Agostini is a professor at Ohio State University in the U.S., while Mr. Krausz is a director at the Max Planck Institute in Germany.

Fifth woman winner

Ms. L'Huillier, only the fifth woman to be awarded the Physics Prize since 1901, is a professor at Lund University in Sweden.

Ms. L'Huillier told reporters she was in the middle of teaching a class when she received the call from the Academy, making it "difficult" to finish the class, to whom she told nothing.

Speaking later at a press conference, she encouraged young women interested in a career in science to "go for it".

14-year-old opens fire in Bangkok mall, leaves 2 dead

Agence France-Presse
BANGKOK

A 14-year-old boy was arrested on Tuesday after a shooting at a packed Bangkok mall that left two persons dead and five wounded, and sent hundreds of panicked shoppers running in terror into the streets.

Police officials said the suspect was in custody but he is a mental patient and too confused to undergo questioning.

Pakistan govt. asks all illegal immigrants to leave by Nov. 1

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's caretaker government has set November 1 as the deadline for thousands of illegal immigrants to leave the country or face deportation as the government intensified its crackdown against those involved in militancy and smuggling, Interior Minister Sarfraz Bugti said on Tuesday.

INBRIEF

Ashok Leyland September sales rise 9% on bus segment

Ashok Leyland Ltd. (ALL) has reported a 9% year-on-year increase in total sales for September aided by a strong push in the bus segment. Total sales stood at 19,202 units, including 1,009 units of exports for September while that of buses rose by 79% to 2,486 units, ALL said in a statement. The commercial-vehicle maker sold 6,450 units of light commercial vehicles, marking a rise of 3%. Sales of medium and heavy commercial vehicles (trucks) climbed 3% to 10,266.

NMDC increases iron-ore prices by ₹250 per tonne

India's largest iron-ore producer NMDC has increased ore prices by ₹250 a tonne. With effect from October 1, lump ore price has been fixed at ₹5,200 and that of fines at ₹4,460, the state-owned miner said in a filing on Tuesday. It had revised upwards the prices for the second consecutive month. For the six months ended September, the company had reported a 21% year-on-year rise in production to 19.56 million tonne (mt) and a 25% higher sales at 20.53 mt.

Swiggy disburses ₹450 crore to 8,000 restaurant owners

Swiggy, an on-demand convenience delivery platform, said it had disbursed ₹450 crore as loans to more than 8,000 restaurant owners under its Capital Assist Program, which was unveiled in 2017 in collaboration with lending outfits such as Indifi, Incred, FT Cash, PayU & IIFL. "The NBFCs will soon facilitate more exciting solutions like pre-approved loans to enable our partners gain easier... access to capital," said Swiggy's VP-Supply Swapnil Bajpai.

Manufacturing PMI slips to 5-mo. low

Even as new orders slowed in September, firms expressed the most optimism so far in 2023 and sharply raised output costs, S&P Global Market Intelligence's survey showed; input cost inflation slowed to the lowest in more than three years

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India's manufacturing activity eased to a five-month low in September with new orders slowing down, as per the seasonally adjusted S&P Global India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), which slid to 57.5 from 58.6 in August. A reading of 50 on the survey-based index reflects no change in activity levels.

While input cost inflation slowed to the lowest in more than three years, firms raised output charges at a sharper pace than the long-run average which could hurt sales prospects going forward. Manufacturers cited higher labour costs combined with upbeat business confidence and buoyant demand, as the rationale for the price increases in September.

"Growth of new export orders softened from August's nine month high, but remained sharp," S&P Global Market Intelligence said in a note. "Firms noted new business gains from clients in Asia, Europe, North America and the Middle East," it added.

Factories' output rose at the slowest pace in five months, but was still above the long-term average and firms exuded the highest optimism about business prospects a year ahead so far in 2023. This spurred a pick-up in hiring growth over August levels at a pace that S&P Global reckoned was strong by historical standards.

'Signs of a slowdown'

"India's manufacturing industry showed mild signs of a slowdown in September, primarily due to a softer increase in new orders which tempered production growth," noted Pollyanna De Lima, the firm's economics associate director. "Nevertheless, both demand and output saw significant upticks and manufacturers held a strongly positive outlook for production," she added.

"Upbeat forecasts continued to drive job creation efforts and initiatives to replenish input stocks. Together, these indices point towards a favourable trajectory for the Indian manufacturing industry," Ms. De Lima observed.

However, the appreciable increase in output charges, despite receding cost pressures, could restrict sales in the coming months, she cautioned.

Manufacturing moderates

Purchasing Managers' Index shows factories' output grew at slowest pace in five months, with PMI easing to 57.5 from 58.6

- Firms cite higher labour costs, business confidence and buoyant demand for September's output price increases
- Companies note new business gains from clients in Asia, Europe, North America and West Asia
- Optimism spurs a pick-up in hiring growth at a 'historically strong' pace

World Bank keeps India FY24 growth forecast at 6.3% on waning demand

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The World Bank on Tuesday retained India's growth forecast at 6.3% for the year 2023-24 saying the expected moderation was due to challenging external conditions and waning pent-up demand.

The World Bank had in April too projected 6.3% GDP growth for 2023-24.

India recorded 7.2% growth in 2022-23. According to the RBI's latest forecast, the economy would grow at 6.5% in 2023-24.

In its latest India Development Update, the Bank noted that service sector activity was expected to remain strong with a growth of 7.4% and investment growth was also projected to remain robust at 8.9%.

The Bank said despite significant global challenges, India was one of the fastest-growing major economies in 2022-23 at 7.2%. India's growth rate was the second-highest among G20 countries and almost twice the average for emerging market economies.

According to the World Bank's Country Director in India Auguste Tano Kouame, for India to become a high-income country, one of the critical aspects required would be a higher female labour force participation rate.

The average level of female labour force participation rate for emerging market economies is about 50% and it is 25% for India, he added.

Critical factor: The World Bank noted that India needs more women in the labour force to become a high-income country. ANI

'India will manage if oil price goes over $100'

Reuters
ABU DHABI

India will manage if the price of oil goes above $100 per barrel even though such a price would not be in "anyone's interest," petroleum minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Tuesday at a conference.

"I hope it doesn't go above $100... you should not be worrying about the impact on India. India will manage. India is a large economy. It has a lot of domestic production. We'll cut back."

JSW Infra debuts at a premium of over 20%

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Shares of JSW Infrastructure Ltd., the ports business of the JSW Group, got listed on the stock exchanges at a premium of more than 20% to the issue price. On the BSE, the stock listed at ₹143, a premium of 20.2% over its issue price of ₹119. The company's shares closed at ₹157.30 on Tuesday, up 10% from listing (32.2% premium to issue price).

The market capitalisation of the infrastructure company at the close of the day's trading stood at ₹33,033.02 crore.

'Global slowdown hits engineering exports'

Press Trust of India
KOLKATA

Engineering Exports Promotion Council (EEPC) said overall exports of engineering goods from the country have been affected by the global slowdown.

Overall engineering exports during April to August in 2023 slid 4.55% y-o-y to $44.62 billion.

According to an EEPC spokesman, engineering exports to Russia surged 178% to $568.41 million during April to August of fiscal 2023-24.

The exporters' body said some of the major trading partners like the U.S. and European countries have been affected by the global slowdown.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has also been ongoing, while China is also experiencing a slowdown. All these factors have affected India's engineering export demand, the EEPC said.

EEPC is of the view India should sign free trade agreements with non-traditional markets like Latin America and Africa to boost engineering exports.

'Airbnb helped add $920 mn to India's GDP in 2022'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Airbnb, a U.S.-based online marketplace for short- and long-term homestays and experiences, contributed more than $920 million to India's Gross Domestic Product and supported in the creation of more than 85,000 jobs in 2022 alone, according to Oxford Economics, a global economic forecasting and econometric analysis outfit.

Airbnb's contribution in terms of revenue and jobs has more than doubled since 2019 despite the COVID-19 outbreak and international border curbs.

'BharatBenz: DICV to expand outlets to 350'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Sreeram Venkateswaran

Daimler India Commercial Vehicles (DICV) is planning to have about 350 BharatBenz sales and service network locations across the country by the year end, said President and CBO Sreeram Venkateswaran.

"Having crossed 320 sales and service locations, we will continue to expand our sales and service footprint in the coming months to achieve 350 network locations by the end of 2023," he said.

On Tuesday, DICV announced the opening of five new 3S dealerships in the North, Northeast and Southern regions of India,

With this, the BharatBenz sales and service network is available at more than 320 locations.

The five new BharatBenz dealerships are located at Tiruchirapalli, Moradabad, Haryana, Mizoram and Nagaland. DICV also opened an exclusive spare-parts outlet in Vandalur near Chennai.

BharatBenz dealerships are located on leading national and State highways on the Golden Quadrilateral. Each location is selected to be within 2.5 hours of clients' reach, DICV said.

'Outbound tourism to cross $15 bn in '23'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Post COVID-19, the outbound tourism market has been growing steadily and this growth momentum is expected to continue till about 2032, an industry executive said.

"India's outbound tourism market is surging and set to reach $15.2 billion in 2023, with an anticipated 11.4% CAGR through 2032," said Gajesh Girdhar, chairman, Network of Indian MICE Agents (NIMA), at a travel show. "This growth is driven by Indians, particularly millennials, eager to explore international destinations," he added.

He also said that India is fast emerging as a MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) tourism destination and that it would attract a large number of visitors.

"The MICE tourism sector in India is booming, thanks to government support and infrastructure development for global events. Our tourism sites are aligning with MICE growth. India's outbound MICE market is one of the fastest-growing in the world. We expect to reach pre-COVID levels by 2024," Mr. Girdhar added.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	65,512	-0.48
US Dollar	83.21	-0.19
Gold	57,550	-1.12
Brent oil	91.33	----

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2387.25	-26.65
Adani Ports	831.40	6.25
Apollo Hosp	5118.95	-18.80
Asian Paints	3166.85	5.80
Axis Bank	1041.05	4.35
Bajaj Auto	5016.45	-47.25
Bajaj Finserv	1561.05	20.80
Bajaj Finance	7967.60	156.85
Bharti Airtel	925.30	-1.10
BPCL	341.35	-5.25
Britannia Ind	4495.45	-41.70
Cipla	1182.80	-3.35
Coal India	291.90	-3.30
Divis Lab	3724.45	-40.70
Dr Reddys Lab	5461.70	-125.30
Eicher Motors	3351.40	-95.55
Grasim Ind	1921.45	-20.95
HCL Tech	1238.70	3.90
HDFC Bank	1508.05	-18.25
HDFC Life	633.55	-3.85
Hero MotoCorp	3015.60	-41.65
Hindalco	479.95	-12.70
Hind Unilever	2468.90	3.30
ICICI Bank	940.30	-11.60
IndusInd Bank	1435.40	6.55
Infosys	1434.00	-1.45
ITC	439.75	-4.65
JSW Steel	770.25	-9.35
Kotak Bank	1727.05	-8.65
L&T	3073.25	49.70
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5212.75	2.90
M&M	1537.40	-16.85
Maruti Suzuki	10346.90	-263.70
NestleIndia	22315.25	-191.65
NTPC	241.20	-4.35
ONGC	184.60	-7.25
PowerGrid Corp	199.55	-0.20
Reliance Ind	2318.15	-26.85
SBI Life	1292.45	-12.95
State Bank	602.95	4.40
Sun Pharma	1141.45	-17.20
TataConsumerProduct	871.90	-5.00
Tata Motors	620.45	-9.75
Tata Steel	128.00	-0.90
TCS	3513.85	-14.75
Tech Mahindra	1216.20	-6.60
Titan	3196.25	47.45
UltraTech Cement	8304.90	50.05
UPL	607.00	-9.25
Wipro	405.45	-0.60

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on October 03

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.01	83.33
Euro	87.03	87.36
British Pound	100.14	100.53
Japanese Yen (100)	55.38	55.60
Chinese Yuan	11.37	11.41
Swiss Franc	89.99	90.35
Singapore Dollar	60.39	60.64
Canadian Dollar	60.50	60.74
Malaysian Ringitt	17.57	17.64
Australian Dollar	52.30	52.51

Source:Indian Bank

ON THE PODIUM

Arjun and Sunil clinch a bronze in men's canoe double 1000m

India's Arjun Singh and Sunil Singh clocked 3:53.329 to seal the men's canoe double 1000m bronze at the Asian Games in Hangzhou on Tuesday. Uzbekistan's Shokhmurod Kholmuradov and Nurislom Tukhtasin Ugli won the gold in 3:43.79 while Kazakhstan's Timofey Yemelyanov and Sergey Yemelyanov took the silver in 3:49.991.

THUMPING WIN

Indian men's kabaddi team proves too good for Bangladesh

The India men's kabaddi team posted a 55-18 victory over Bangladesh in its first match in the Asian Games in Hangzhou on Tuesday. In the first-half, India received three bonus points and was out 19 times. In the second, it sealed three bonus points and was out 22 times. The team will meet Thailand on Wednesday.

SAILING THROUGH

Sindhu and Prannoy progress to round-of-16 in singles event

P.V. Sindhu and H.S. Prannoy began their Asian Games campaign with a win in their respective round-of-32 singles matches at Asian Games in Hangzhou on Tuesday. Sindhu defeated the World No. 21 Chinese Taipei's Hsu Wen Chi 21-10, 21-15 while Prannoy advanced with a 21-9, 21-12 victory against Mongolia's Batdavaa Munkhbat.

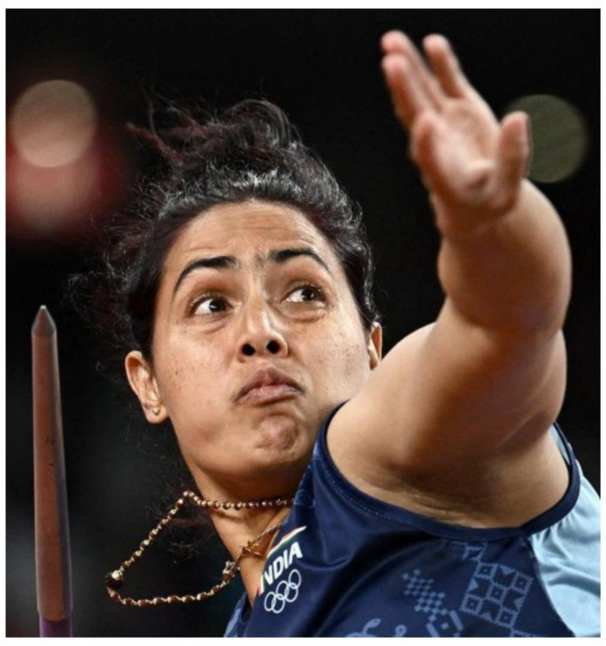
TICKET TO PARIS

Lovlina punches her way to the final... and the Olympics!

Lovlina Borgohain had to reach the final at the Asian Games to ensure she qualified for Paris 2024. And she did in style, overwhelming Thailand's Maneekon Baison to set up a title clash in the 74kg with local favourite and two-time Olympic and World medallist Li Qian.

Parul and Annu turn back the clock to add more golden glow

Former takes the honours in the 5000m with a brilliant finish while the latter unleashes the season's best throw for javelin gold; Tejaswin and Afsal claim silver in decathlon and 800m respectively; Vithya and Praveen win bronze medals



Another bonanza: India struck it rich again in track and field with Parul (5000m) and Annu (javelin) winning gold, Afsal (800m) and Tejaswin (decathlon) adding a silver sheen, and Vithya (400m hurdles) and Praveen (triple jump) taking home bronze medals. GETTY IMAGES, REUTERS, AP, PTI

ASIAN GAMES

Uthra Ganesan
HANGZHOU

The 3000m steeplechase is one of the hardest events in athletics. To win silver in that and then recover, in less than 24 hours, to go one better and win gold in a gruelling 5000m speak volumes about Parul Chaudhary's fitness and determination as the Indian added a third gold to India's athletics tally here on Monday.

She was soon joined by veteran Annu Rani, managing her season's best throw of 62.92m to finish on top in the javelin throw as India continued to shine on the track & field.

It was Annu's first throw past 60m this year, the previous best being a 59.24m in May. In fact, this was her best performance since May last year!

That the two gold medallists of the day for India were both veteran women athletes also speaks volumes on the growing fitness levels of Indian athletes and India's improving status – the country has won 22 medals so far and is currently second in the sport behind China in numbers.

Parul, a TE with Indian railways at the moment, spoke of how getting a job as DSP with UP Police was her main motivator.

"I knew I had the capacity to beat her. Yesterday I was too tired to even sleep after the silver but had decided to go for gold today. I wanted to win for India and the prospect of a good job was also there. I have been working on this since 2011 and everyone had a lot of expectations and I am happy to fulfill them," an exhausted Parul admitted.

Breaking away
Running with the pack for a large part of the race, Parul broke away along with the Japanese duo of Ririka Hironaka and Yuma Yamamoto in the penultimate lap as the field opened up and the race accelerated.

Trailing fourth going into the last lap, Ririka and Parul overtook others to be placed one and two respectively at the 300m bend, only for the Indian to kick her way ahead to the finish line in the final 10m in 15:14.75.

Determined
Annu, meanwhile, admitted she was under pressure to perform but was determined to go all out.

"I have not had great results this year and was quite depressed. I knew I could do it, it was not easy but I was determined to not go down without a fight and gave my everything on the field," the 31-year old said.

Also finishing among the medals was Vithya Ramraj, recovering from a gruelling 4x400m mixed relay late on Monday night, to finish third in the 400m hurdles in 55.68sec.

In the men's section, Tejaswin Shankar bettered the 12-year-old National record in decathlon en route to winning silver, becoming the only Indian to hold National records in two different field events.

New mark
The 24-year-old, the National record holder in high jump, fought cramps, dehydration and exhaustion on a humid night to finish with 7666 points to cross Bhartinder Singh's 7658 points set in 2011. China's Qihao Sun claimed gold with 7816 points.

Mohd. Afsal ran to silver in the men's 800m in 1:48.43 even as teammate Krishan Kumar was disqualified for obstruction.

In triple jump, Praveen Chithravel managed a bronze with a best mark of 16.68m, behind the Chinese duo of Yaming Zhu (17.13) and Yaoqing Fang (16.93m).

Abdulla Aboobacker was fourth with an effort of 16.62m.

Medals Table

Country	G	S	B	T
China	161	90	46	297
Japan	33	47	50	130
S. Korea	32	42	65	139
India	**15**	**26**	**28**	**69**
Uzbekistan	14	15	21	50
Chinese Taipei	12	10	18	40
Thailand	10	11	19	40
N. Korea	7	10	6	23
Bahrain	7	1	4	12
Hong Kong	6	15	24	45

Jaiswal's ton, spinners help India enter the semifinals

AG CRICKET

Aashin Prasad
HANGZHOU

For a moment when Dipendra Singh Airee got stuck into Shivam Dube in the 12th over of the chase, India would have felt Nepal breathing down its neck.

Dipendra, who scored a nine-ball fifty against Mongolia last week, sent Dube over the fence for three successive deliveries. From 104 off 42 balls, Nepal needed 86 from 39, prompting skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad and Arshdeep Singh to converge at the bowler's end.

Luckily for Dube, Dipendra failed to put away a full toss and managed only three runs from the next two balls before Ravi Bishnoi dismissed the Nepal batter in the next over.

Then Arshdeep removed Sundeep Jora (29 off 12 balls) after being carted for two sixes, which ultimately ended Nepal's hopes and paved the way for India's 23-run win in the quarterfinal on Tuesday.

Record-breaker: The 21-year-old Jaiswal became the youngest India batter to score a T20I century. AFP

It was the Indian spinners – Bishnoi and debutant R. Sai Kishore – who kept it tight and provided the crucial breakthroughs while defending 203.

The leg-spinner accounted for three wickets, including those of T20I's fastest centurion, Kushal Malla, for 29 and Dipendra for a 15-ball 32. "It's a special feeling. It's a dream come true for me. A lot of people had helped me to get here," said Sai Kishore.

Earlier, after opting to bat, openers Ruturaj and Yashasvi Jaiswal (100 from 49) put on a 103-run stand inside 10 overs to set the platform for India.

While Ruturaj found it tough to get the scoreboard ticking, Jaiswal raced off the blocks and gave impetus to the Indian innings. Dube and Rinku Singh went ballistic in the final overs to power India to what proved a winning total.

The scores:
India 202/4 in 20 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal 100, Rinku Singh 37 n.o.) bt Nepal 179/9 in 20 overs (Dipendra Singh Airee 32, Avesh Khan 3/32, Ravi Bishnoi 3/24).

THE INDIA SHOW

A look at some of the Indian performances on Tuesday:

Archery: Compound (individual): Semifinals: Men: Abhishek bt Jaehoon (Kor), Deotale bt Jaewon (Kor); **Women:** Jyothi Surekha bt Aditi. **Recurve (individual): Quarterfinals: Men:** Atanu lost to Xiangshuo (Chn), Dhiraj lost to Abdullin (Kaz).

Athletics: Men: Decathlon: Tejaswin (**Silver**); 4x400m relay (round 1): First in Heat 1 (enters final); Triple jump (final): Praveen (**Bronze**), Abdulla (fourth); 400m hurdles (final): Yashas (fifth), Santhosh (sixth); 800m (final): Afsal (**Silver**).

Women: 800m (round 1): Chanda (first in Heat 1), Harmilan (first in Heat 2) - both advance to final; High jump (final): Pooja (sixth), Rubina (ninth); 400m hurdles (final): Vithya (**Bronze**); 5000m (final): Parul (**Gold**), Ankita (fifth); Javelin (final): Annu (**Gold**).

Badminton: Round-of-32: Singles: Men: Srikanth bt Yun-gyu (Kor) 2-0, Prannoy bt Munkhbat (Mgl) 2-0; **Women:** Sindhu bt Wen-chi (Tpe) 2-0, Ashmita lost to Tunjung (Ina) 0-2. **Doubles: Women:** Treesa & Gayatri bt Aminath & Fathimath (Mdv) 2-0, Tanisha & Ashwini bt Maisa & Aishath (Mdv) 1-0 (retd. while trailing 2-12 in second game).

On target: Jyothi defeated Aditi 149-146 to qualify for the women's individual gold medal match in archery. PTI

Boxing: Women (semifinals): 54kg: Preeti lost to Chang (Chn), **won bronze**; 75kg: Lovlina bt Maneekon (Tha); **Men:** 57kg (quarterfinal): Sachin lost to Lyu (Chn); +92kg (semifinal): Narender lost to Kunkabayev (Kaz), **won bronze**.

Canoe Sprint: Men's Canoe Double 1000m: Bronze (Arjun, Sunil).

Chess: Team (round 5): Men: drew with Iran; **Women:** bt Mongolia.

Cricket: Men (quarterfinal): bt Nepal by 23 runs.

Hockey: Women: Pool A: bt Hong Kong 13-0.

Kabaddi: Men: Group A: bt Bangladesh 55-18. **Women:** Group A: bt South Korea 56-23.

Squash: Quarterfinals: Singles: Men: Ghosal bt Tsukue (Jpn) 3-0; **Women:** Tanvi lost to Watanabe (Jpn) 0-3.

Mixed doubles: Dipika & Harinder bt Jemyca & Garcia (Phi) 2-1; Anahat & Abhay bt Yeonsoo & Lee (Kor) 2-1.

Preeti and Narender win bronze

Sports Bureau
HANGZHOU

Preeti Pawar went down to Yuan Chang in the 54kg semifinals and finished with a bronze in the boxing event on Tuesday. Narender ended his campaign with a bronze in the +92kg after losing to Kazakhstan's Kamshybek Kunkabayev in the semifinals.

INDIANS IN ACTION

A look at some Indian players/teams who will compete on Wednesday (all times IST):

Archery: Mixed team (quarterfinals, semifinals and medal matches): Compound (6.10 a.m), Recurve (11.30 a.m.).

Athletics: 35km race walk mixed team (final): Ram, Manju (4.30 a.m.).

Men: High jump (final): Sarvesh, Sandesh (4.30 p.m.); Javelin (final): Neeraj, Kishore (4.35 p.m.); 5000m (final): Gulveer, Avinash (5.10 p.m.); 4x400m relay final (6.05 p.m.).

Women: Triple jump (final): Sheena (4.40 p.m.); 800m (final): Harmilan, Chanda (4.55 p.m.); 4x400m relay final (5.45 p.m.).

Badminton: Round-of-16: Singles, doubles and mixed doubles matches, 7.30 a.m.

Boxing: Women: 57kg (semifinals): Parveen vs. Lin (Tpe), 11.30 a.m; 75kg (final): Lovlina vs. Qian (Chn), 1.15 p.m.

Chess: Team (round 6): Men and women, 12.30 p.m.

Hockey: Men (semifinals): vs. South Korea (1.30 p.m.).

Kabaddi: Men: Group A: vs. Thailand (6 a.m.). **Women:** Group A: vs. Thailand (1.30 p.m.).

Squash: Semifinals: Mixed doubles (9.30 a.m.); Singles: Ghosal vs. Leung (Hkg), 3.30 p.m.

Wrestling: Men's Greco-Roman: 60kg (Gyanender), 67kg (Neeraj), 77kg (Vikas), 87kg (Sunil), 7.30 a.m. onwards.

World Cup offers the Men in Blue a shot at redemption on home soil

Hopefully the word 'choke' that shadows India in global championships would be consigned to the sidelines

WC COUNTDOWN

K.C. Vijaya Kumar

Playing in their backyard while eyeing an ICC title that has eluded them since 2013, the Men in Blue get another opportunity to replicate the winning exploits of Kapil's Devils (1983) and M.S. Dhoni's merry band (2011).

Excess travel

The ICC World Cup's 13th edition played across India from this Thursday to November 19, will also witness Rohit Sharma's men clocking excessive air-miles as they criss-cross the nation.

Ever since the 2013 ICC Champions Trophy victory, India has faltered in the climactic stages of intercontinental tournaments. It is a result that goes against the grain as in bilateral jousts, be it Tests, ODIs and T20Is, India, under Virat Kohli, Ajinkya Rahane and now Rohit, have found ways to emerge on top. The latest World Cup offers a chance at redemption and hopefully the word 'choke', that shadows India in global championships, would be consigned to the sidelines.

Weak tail

India has the batting arsenal right from the troika of Rohit, Shubman Gill and Kohli, to the middle-order with K.L. Rahul and Shreyas Iyer stepping up.

That Suryakumar Yadav is yet to fully discover his voice in ODIs unlike the roar he unleashes in T20Is, is a worry but the management has faith in him.

Hardik Pandya and Ravindra Jadeja's all-round skills could also be a key factor especially as the subsequent tail looks weak. Getting the playing eleven right could be a challenge as the temptation would always be about fortifying the batting arm. That Rahul is donning the wicketkeeping gloves much like coach Rahul Dravid, who did the same in the distant past, is a pointer to this philosophy.

Even if the talented Ishan Kishan is in the ranks, equally adept behind the stumps and with the willow in front of it, an injured Rishabh Pant's absence would be felt.

Seamers Jasprit Bumrah and the Mohammeds – Shami and Siraj, should be automatic choices but as a batting trio, they may not yield much and whether that could open up a berth for Shardul Thakur remains to be seen.

Meanwhile, R. Ashwin's return augurs well. He, Kuldeep Yadav and the other spinners need to stay tight in the middle overs besides prising out wickets. India has a strong unit but in a long tournament, fitness levels have to be maintained.

And the path towards that victor's podium starts with a small but crucial step: Sunday's match against Australia at Chennai's M.A. Chidambaram Stadium!

ACE IN THE PACK

Hardik Pandya could be India's talisman. His ability to clear the ropes, bowl with zest and field with alacrity, offers an all-round option that should bolster Rohit Sharma's men.

Having emerged from an injury-hiatus, Hardik has moved on from that fragile phase and India needs him at his best.

Eyeing the pinnacle: Rohit would look to emulate Kapil's Devils and Dhoni's merry band. RITU RAJ KONWAR.

India (Champion: 1983, 2011)

World Cup numbers

	M	W	L	T	NR
Overall	84	53	29	1	1
H2H against teams in the 2023 edition					
vs. Pakistan	7	7	0	0	0
vs. Sri Lanka	9	4	4	0	1
vs. Australia	12	4	8	0	0
vs. Bangladesh	4	3	1	0	0
vs. England	8	3	4	1	0
vs. New Zealand	8	3	5	0	0
vs. Netherlands	2	2	0	0	0
vs. South Africa	5	2	3	0	0
vs. Afghanistan	1	1	0	0	0

The India caravan

Oct. 8	vs. Australia	Chennai	2 p.m.
Oct. 11	vs. Afghanistan	Delhi	2 p.m.
Oct. 14	vs. Pakistan	Ahmedabad	2 p.m.
Oct. 19	vs. Bangladesh	Pune	2 p.m.
Oct. 22	vs. New Zealand	Dharamshala	2 p.m.
Oct. 29	vs. England	Lucknow	2 p.m.
Nov. 2	vs. Sri Lanka	Mumbai	2 p.m.
Nov. 5	vs. South Africa	Kolkata	2 p.m.
Nov. 12	vs. Netherlands	Bengaluru	2 p.m.

Conway will be crucial to Kiwis' fortunes in the sub-continent

Secret weapon: Conway feels that having the sweep shot in his arsenal has been crucial to his success in subcontinent conditions. AP

S. Dipak Ragav
AHMEDABAD

Within three years of his international debut, Devon Conway has become an indispensable part of the New Zealand set-up across formats and will be a crucial player to the two-time runner-up's chances at the World Cup starting on Thursday.

While he started with a duck against Pakistan last week in the first warm-up game, he got back on track by top-scoring (78 retired) against South Africa in the second game in Thiruvananthapuram on Monday.

The opener comes into the tournament with a good record in the subcontinent, having scored two ODI tons this year, one each against Pakistan and India, apart from a highly productive IPL for Chennai Super Kings. The South African-born Kiwi opener has shown a remarkable ability to succeed on slow-paced pitches and feels how his team adapts to these conditions will be the biggest challenge.

"I think, obviously, we are looking to adapt to the surfaces as they may differ in different parts of the country. We try to hold on to our partnerships as best as possible and have clear communication throughout the game with bat or ball. Those are some areas where we can keep learning and improving on each game," said Conway to *The Hindu* on the takeaways from the team's two wins in the warm-up games.

Explaining his approach to batting in the subcontinent, Conway said, "For me, it is about understanding that the surface will be slower and have less bounce.

"So I just looked to play straighter as long as possible and find ways to put bowlers under pressure and score.

"If you are limited here, you often get stuck. Having the sweep shot or run down and playing straight in your locker has been crucial to score in these conditions," he added.

When asked if there is an added determination within the team this time, considering it could be the last World Cup for members of the team who were part of the previous two finals, the 32-year-old said, "Yeah! I think so. If we cast our minds to four years ago, we got so close to crossing the line.

"We have many players who were involved in that game and have been part of World Cups previously. So we are very motivated, as all teams will be.

"We are keen to try to go one further this year, but we don't look too far ahead as a group and put pressure on ourselves."

England, New Zealand teams arrive in Ahmedabad for WC opener

S. Dipak Ragav
AHMEDABAD

The New Zealand and England teams arrived here on Tuesday for the World Cup opener on Thursday.

Both will have a day's training at the Narendra Modi Stadium on Wednesday.

The dew factor is something the teams will prepare for as it could impact the opening game. It is learnt that there has been dew on the outfield for the last few days and the ground staff are planning to use the anti-dew spray on the morning of the match, if needed.

Three pitches of different types – black soil, red soil and one mixture of red and black – will be used for the five matches to be played at this venue.

During the IPL, there were quite a few high-scoring contests and the World Cup games, too, are expected to produce a lot of runs. It is understood that there won't be an elaborate opening ceremony and just a photo-shoot featuring the 10 captains on Wednesday.

Ready for business: The England players will be keen to start their campaign on a winning note. VIJAY SONEJI

The Hindu WC Trivia quiz from tomorrow

Sports Bureau

The Hindu presents the Cricket World Cup Trivia Challenge – a 45-day long quiz for the readers to engage and test the knowledge of the World Cup moments and win exciting gift vouchers – will start from October 5 (Thursday).

Readers will have to register using the QR code to enter the contest and answer three questions every day. The winners will get over ₹1 lakh worth consolidated gift vouchers over 45 days.

Watch the sports page to participate in the contest.

Jubilant: Rest of India emerged the winner defeating Saurashtra by 175 runs. S. PRASANNA VENKATESAN

Rest of India lifts trophy as wickets fall like nine pins

IRANI CUP

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
RAJKOT

Rest of India defeated Saurashtra by 175 runs to clinch the Irani Cup as 21 wickets fell on the third day at the Saurashtra Cricket Association (SCA) stadium here on Tuesday.

Parth Bhut's seven-wicket spell in the second session hit Rest of India (RoI) like a big yellow school bus as he ended up with figures of seven for 53. The Rest of India camp would have clutched at anything that looked like a lifeline as it lost nine wickets for 64 runs in the session to be bowled out for 160 in its second innings.

Chasing 255, though, Saurashtra was tasered, tied-up, and gagged in the third session as it was bowled out for 79, courtesy left-arm spinner Saurabh Kumar (six for 43, match haul of 10 for 108).

The first session, in stark contrast, was a mushroom cloud of casual. Mayank Agarwal (49, 93b, 6x4) and Sai Sudharsan (43, 104b, 3x4) added 85 runs off 172 balls for the first-wicket and the Rest of India camp would have felt good.

After lunch, Parth had Sai Sudharsan caught at midwicket by Pujara, castled Sarfaraz Khan who attempted a reverse sweep, and Yash Dhull caught and bowled.

Left-hander Shams Mulani came down the track and missed a ball that didn't turn was stumped. K.S. Bharat top-edged a sweep only to be caught by the bowler himself.

Pulkit Narang missed one that straightened and was bowled through the gate and Vidwath Kaverappa was out leg-before.

Parth (12 for 147) became the first bowler from Saurashtra (and Gujarat) to get a 10-wicket match-haul in the Irani Cup history.

The scores:

Rest of India — 1st innings: 308.

Saurashtra — 1st innings: Harvik Desai c Sarfaraz b Kaverappa 0, Chirag Jani c Bharat b Kaverappa 2, Samarth Vyas c Sarfaraz b Saurabh 29, Cheteshwar Pujara c Dhull b Narang 29, Sheldon Jackson lbw b Saurabh 13, Arpit Vasavada c Sarfaraz b Saurabh 54, Prerak Mankad lbw b Kaverappa 29, Parth Bhut c Bharat b Mulani 20, Dharmendrasinh Jadeja lbw b Mulani 11, Jaydev Unadkat c Narang b Saurabh 19, Yuvrajsinh Dodiya (not out) 0; Extras (lb-4, nb-3, w-1): 8; Total (in 83.2 overs): 214.

Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-4, 3-51, 4-64, 5-77, 6-124, 7-178, 8-193, 9-205.

RoI bowling: Kaverappa 9-0-28-3, Saini 4-0-14-0, Saurabh 26.2-5-65-4, Mulani 23-3-47-2, Narang 21-3-56-1.

Rest of India — 2nd innings: Sai Sudharsan c Pujara b Parth 43, Mayank Agarwal c Harvik b Dharmendrasinh 49, Hanuma Vihari c Harvik b Dharmendrasinh 22, Sarfaraz Khan b Parth 13, Yash Dhull c & b Parth 5, Shams Mulani st Harvik b Parth 1, K.S. Bharat c & b Parth 0, Saurabh Kumar b Dharmendrasinh 7, Pulkit Narang b Parth 9, Navdeep Saini (not out) 4, Vidwath Kaverappa lbw b Parth 1; Extras (lb-4, nb-2): 6; Total (in 52 overs): 160.

Fall of wickets: 1-85, 2-117, 3-133, 4-135, 5-138, 6-139, 7-146, 8-146, 9-156.

Saurashtra bowling: Unadkat 7-4-9-0, Dharmendrasinh 22-2-65-3, Dodiya 7-1-29-0, Parth 16-1-53-7.

Saurashtra — 2nd innings: Chirag Jani b Saurabh 1, Harvik Desai c Sarfaraz b Saurabh 13, Samarth Vyas b Saurabh 10, Cheteshwar Pujara lbw b Mulani 7, Sheldon Jackson c Kaverappa b Saurabh 3, Arpit Vasavada c Vihari b Mulani 0, Prerak Mankad c Dhull b Narang 12, Dharmendrasinh Jadeja c Mulani b Saurabh 21, Parth Bhut c Dhull b Mulani 1, Jaydev Unadkat (not out) 8, Yuvrajsinh Dodiya b Saurabh 0; Extras (b-3): 3; Total (in 34.3 overs): 79

Fall of wickets: 1-3, 2-15, 3-26, 4-33, 5-34, 6-42, 7-50, 8-51, 9-79.

RoI bowling: Kaverappa 3-0-5-0, Saurabh 16.3-1-43-6, Saini 2-0-5-0, Mulani 12-2-22-3, Narang 1-0-1-1.

PoM: Saurabh (RoI).

How Dhoni's 'process over results' philosophy pushed Ancy to the top

ASIAN GAMES

Aashin Prasad
HANGZHOU

Long jumper Ancy Sojan has different playlists for various facets of her life. After winning, as she did with her Asian Games silver medal on Monday, she will be dancing into the night to ' Naa Ready Thaan Varava' (I am ready, are you ready for me?) from actor Vijay's upcoming flick Leo.

Not ready

But for much of the year, despite her promise, not many were ready for Ancy to arrive on the stage.

In recent times, it's the junior Shaili Singh, who has been earmarked as the strongest Indian in the pit. Shaili's personal best 6.76m jump at the start of the year and a silver at the Asian Athletics Championships, deservedly put the spotlight on her ahead of the girl from Thrissur.

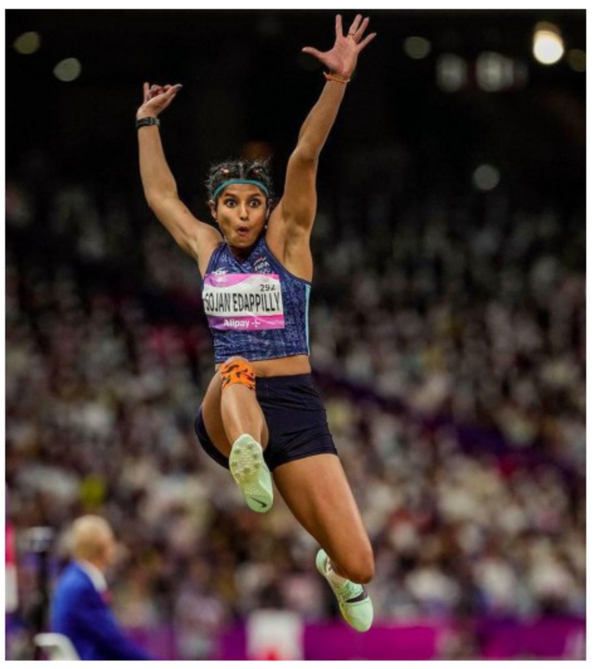
Ancy, 22, said former India captain M.S. Dhoni's oft-repeated words – process over results – was her philosophy. "Once Dhoni said that whatever you are training, ensure you put that into your performance. You just concentrate on what you can do. I just focused on a good run and a good take-off," she explained after the final.

Ancy started the year with a 6.49m jump in March and progressed to a personal best of 6.56m in May. But after the fourth place in Bangkok, she was set back both physically and mentally.

Close margins

"I lost out on winning medals by close margins this season. After finishing fourth at Asian Athletics, I was sad for a week. I put on weight because of menstrual problems and went up to 59 kilos. But, in three weeks, I went down to 55kg, reduced carbs and got back in shape. After recovery, I just told myself 'no problem, I can do it [win a medal]'," said Ancy.

"It was the best runway I have ever had. I increased my runway speed and distance. I am a former sprinter, and that helps me in my jump," she said about the Hangzhou field.



Ready for the big leap: Ancy is hungry to taste more success after her silver medal show at Hangzhou. PTI

ICC names Tendulkar as Global Ambassador

Sports Bureau
AHMEDABAD

Indian legend Sachin Tendulkar was announced as the Global Ambassador for the Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 by the International Cricket Council on Tuesday. The Master Blaster, who has an enviable record of featuring in six 50-over World Cups in his career, will walk out with the Men's Cricket World Cup Trophy before the opening match at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, declaring the tournament open on Thursday.

"From being a ball boy in 1987 to representing the country in six editions, World Cups have always held a special place in my heart. Winning the World Cup in 2011 was the proudest moment of my cricketing journey," said Tendulkar.

INBRIEF

Chelsea finally on target to down Fulham

Goal-shy Chelsea finally found its cutting edge on Monday, striking twice in 82 seconds to beat Fulham 2-0 and earn just its second Premier League win of the season.

The result: Fulham 0 lost to Chelsea 2 (Mudryk 18, Broja 19).

Andretti Formula Racing gets FIA's nod to join Formula One

The FIA on Monday said it had given Andretti Formula Racing the green light to become Formula One's 11th team after putting forward its application for the third and final selection phase. It was the only one of four applicants to pass the FIA's review process, but its place on the grid remains subject to it striking a commercial agreement with F1 rights holder Liberty Media.

Unnati, Ayush cruise in opening round

Unnati Hooda and Ayush Shetty put up impressive performances in the individual events at the Badminton World Junior Championships in Spokane, USA. Unnati registered a resounding 21-7, 21-11 victory over Tahiti's Heirautea Curet. Ayush posted a convincing 21-6, 21-13 win against Italy's Simone Piccinin.

The results (first round): Girls: Unnati Hooda bt Heirautea Curet (Tah) 21-7, 21-11; Devika Sihag bt Elisaveta Berik (Est) 21-13, 21-9.
Boys: Ayush Shetty bt Simone Piccinin (Ita) 21-6, 21-13; Tushar Suveer bt Andrei Schmidt (Est) 21-12, 21-15. Doubles: Divyam Arora & Mayank Rana bt Filip Boehn & Sander Oesthassel (Nor) 21-13, 21-14.
Mixed doubles: Sathwik Reddy Kanapuram & Vaishnavi Khadkekar bt Artyom Hakobyan & Ani Sahakyan (Arm) 21-4, 21-7; Samarveer & Radhika Sharma Chen Yong Rui & Jiang Pei Xi (Chn) 21-16, 17-21, 21-14.

Logan van Beek – the Dutchman who turned up for New Zealand

Believes the Super Over heroics against the Windies in the qualifiers is just the beginning and is keen to give his best at the show-piece event

ODI WORLD CUP

P.K. Ajith Kumar
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Positive approach: van Beek wants to soak in the experience of playing in the World Cup irrespective of the result. P.K. AJITH KUMAR

Midway through our conversation on an overcast, slightly windy afternoon, Logan van Beek quotes Maya Angelou: This is a wonderful day. I have never seen this one before.

That, the Netherlands all-rounder says, is going to be his motto for the cricket World Cup.

"Whether we get badly beaten, I get badly hit bowling-wise, or I get out for a duck, the next day is a wonderful day," van Beek tells *The Hindu*, shortly after the training session at the St. Xavier's College Ground.

He also speaks about his conversation the other night he had with the 10-year-old Logan, who grew up in Christchurch dreaming of playing the cricket World Cup for New Zealand. Little Logan didn't imagine that he would instead be playing the World Cup for the Netherlands.

Neither could he have imagined that he would play a significant role in booking the Netherlands' ticket for the World Cup with a stunning performance in the Super Over, both with bat and ball, in the qualifying tournament match at Harare. After slamming Jason Holder's every ball for a boundary - three fours, three sixes in the score of 30 - he took two for eight.

"The cricketing gods were on my side," says van Beek. "They gave me the privilege of having a moment like that. But I believe it's just the start of what I'm capable of."

The following day, he sent a message to Holder, saying that he felt for him. "Jason is actually one of my good friends that we've played together for a long time," says van Beek.

"We were both at the U-19 World Cup (in which I played for New Zealand) in 2010 and he came around to my house and met my family. He texted me back: I'm so happy that it was you who did that to me."

It was not just the Under-19 cricket van Beek has played for New Zealand. He was part of the New Zealand team for the Under-19 basketball World championship.

Last year, he had toured India with the New Zealand-A side, and one recalls watching him in the second 'Test' at Hubballi produce an outside edge from opener Abhimanyu Easwaran with a ball that swung away a long away. He is excited about the World Cup.

"When I represent Holland, I'm proud to represent that side of my family," he says. I'm proud to wear the orange. As for New Zealand, it's the country I grew up and spent most of my life in."

The South Africans are peaking at the right time

Sunil Gavaskar

This edition of the ICC Cricket World Cup promises to be the most closely fought one ever.

Thanks to the proliferation of T20 leagues all over the world, every player has got used to a faster dynamic pace that the game demands. The 50 overs per side white ball game is like two and half T20 games and teams being used to the extreme pressures that a T20 game demands are able to adjust to tough situations quite quickly.

England are the defending champions in both the 50 overs as well as the T20 formats and start as the favourites to win the title again.

There is no apparent weakness in their team. They have destructive batters to start with and have finishers who can hit the ball deep into the crowd.

Their bowling is a great mix too, and with their fielding also being top drawer it's hard to look beyond England for the title. That said, we have seen how this game can turn on its head in a matter of deliveries and there are other teams not far behind who are capable of taking advantage of the situation and grabbing their chance.

The hosts India are one such team who are coming into the tournament in top form and looking very dangerous indeed.

The only weakness

They too have a batting line-up to die for and the variety in the bowling to trouble all the opposition. If there is any weakness, it's in the fielding where they have a couple of fielders to hide and it will be up to the skipper to do that effectively.

The 50 overs World Cup has been won most times by the Australians and as always they will be in the mix too despite their recent form which has not been most encouraging.

New Zealand too have a good record of being in the semifinals in 8 out of the 12 editions of the tournament so far and with their talismanic skipper Kane Williamson likely to be playing from the second week of the tournament they will be a team to watch out for too.

The other subcontinent teams know the conditions well and will be a danger too but apart from Pakistan who need a dose of energy they don't look like going all the way.

Ease the burden

The team to watch out for is South Africa.

Perhaps it's the first tournament when not many have rated them as favourites and that would ease the burden of expectations on them.

They have shown with their come-from-behind win over Australia in the series last month that they are peaking at the right time.

They made their comeback to international cricket after their 21-year isolation with a one-day series in India.

Who knows, India could well be the country where they get their hands on their first World Cup.

(Professional Management Group)

Chhetri returns as BFC looks to get back to winning ways

ISL-10

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Building momentum: BFC's coach Grayson says that having the attacking options back in the side will help.
FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Following two defeats in its opening two games, Bengaluru FC will look to get back to winning ways when it meets East Bengal FC in the Indian Super League here on Wednesday.

Simon Grayson's men will hope for the familiar environs of the Sree Kanteerava Stadium to spring them back to life after narrow away losses to Kerala Blasters and Mohun Bagan Super Giant.

The return of Sunil Chhetri, after competing in the Asian Games, will surely help, despite the fact that the 39-year-old talisman wasn't a guaranteed starter last season.

BFC, however, will miss key men in Suresh Wangjam and Naorem Roshan, who will be serving suspensions for the red cards against Mohun Bagan Super Giant last week. On form though, it is East Bengal which is better placed, having picked up four points from the first two fixtures against Jamshedpur FC and Hyderabad FC.

Striker Cleiton Silva, formerly of BFC, had scored all three goals in the twin victories over BFC last year, and the home faithful will pray that he isn't a thorn in the flesh again.

East Bengal coach Carles Cuadrat will also be returning to the club with whom he won the ISL title in 2018-19. Grayson said Bengaluru would welcome the Catalan warmly but hoped that he would go back a disappointed man. Cuadrat will gladly take the reverse.

Vishnu Vardhan pulls past Adil Kalyanpur

NATIONAL TENNIS

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

Former champion Vishnu Vardhan battled for three hours and 25 minutes and converted his fifth match point to stop the resurgent Adil Kalyanpur 7-6(3), 3-6, 7-5 in the men's first round of the Fenesta National tennis on Tuesday.

Another former champion, the wiry left-hander Siddharth Vishwakarma, played a delightful all-court game, whipping his serves and strokes with a relish to silence the power game of Rishi Reddy.

Vishnu in action.
KAMESH SRINIVASAN

The results (first round): Men: Sai Karteek Reddy bt Faisal Qamar 7-5, 7-5; Abhinav Sanjeev Shanmugam bt Ajay Malik 6-0, 6-2; Siddharth Vishwakarma bt Rishi Reddy 6-3, 6-2; Suraj Prabodh bt Neeraj Yashpaul 6-3, 6-0; V.M. Ranjeet bt Yash Chaurasia 6-0, 6-3; Sheikh Md. Iftikhar bt Dheeraj Srinivasan 6-3, 7-5; Vishnu Vardhan bt Adil Kalyanpur 7-6(3), 3-6, 7-5; Kabir Hans bt Raghav Jaisinghani 6-4, 6-4.

Women: Vaidehi Chaudhari bt Saily Thakkar 6-2, 6-0; Sai Janvi bt Ruma Gaikaiwari 6-1, 2-6, 6-1; Kashish Bhatia bt Pooja Ingale 6-3, 6-4; Avishka Gupta bt Ishwari Matere 6-3, 2-6, 6-2; Riya Sachdeva bt Shruti Gupta 6-2, 6-3; Sai Samhitha bt Kavya Khirwar 6-1, 1-6, 6-3; Vanshika Choudhary bt Himaanshika Singh 3-6, 7-6(4), 3-0 (retired).

BENGALURU ROUND UP

Yogesh gets the better of Karthik for title

Yogesh Kumar edged out B.C. Karthik in the final to emerge as the State ranking men's 6-red snooker champion here.

The results: Final: Yogesh Kumar bt B.C. Karthik 42-17, 40-20, 11-33, 62-5, 10-33, 1-36, 8-44, 0-56, 54-12, 64-0, 39-0
Third place playoff: M.L. Lakshman bt A.R. Arjun 67-1, 37-8, 37-14, 44-8.

The champion: Yogesh Kumar in action on Tuesday.

Kickstart posts a 2-0 win

Kickstart FC defeated Bangalore Dream United FC 2-0 in the BDFA Super Division men's football league here on Tuesday.

The results: South United FC 3 (Rungsing Muinao 22, S. Navaneeth 73, 90) bt Real Chikkamagaluru FC 0; Kickstart FC 2 (Mame Nongneng 74, Graffenberg Jurwa 88) bt Bangalore Dream United FC 0.

Karisma slams six in Kickstart's big win

Karisma Purshotam scored six goals to power Kickstart FC to a 14-0 win over Pink Panthers in the KSFA Super Division women's football league here on Tuesday.

The result: Kickstart FC 14 (Sonia Marak 3, 24, 90+3, Karisma Purshotam 9, 17, 32, 34, 65, 66, Lirinmuani 14, 60, 81, E. Jayashree 45+1, Santhiy Amary 61) bt Pink Panthers FC 0.

Titles for Young Orions, DYES (Mysuru)

Young Orions SC and DYES (Mysuru) won the men's and women's titles in the State level floodlit basketball tournament conducted at Kolar.

The results: Finals: Men: Young Orions SC 52 (Arjun 15, Pratham 12) bt Bank of Baroda 46 (Hareesh 10).

Women: DYES (Mysuru) 56 (Meghana 22) bt Beagles BC 42 (Chandana 17, Mekhala 11).

LIVE TELECAST

Asian Games: Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 5.30 a.m. onwards
ISL: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 8 p.m.
Champions League: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 10.15 p.m. & 12.15 a.m. (Thursday)
Asian Games: Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 5.30 a.m. onwards (Thursday)

The World Cup as a farewell tour for top players is well established

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

The World Cup is often a farewell tour for top players. Rohan Kanhai and Farokh Engineer finished their careers at the inaugural Cup in 1975. It was Imran Khan 1992 and Javed Miandad four years later. In 2015, it was Mahela Jayawardene. There's a long list.

Every four years, players use the occasion for the final wave before disappearing into commentary boxes, coaching assignments, administration or sometimes, obscurity.

There's something about a World Cup campaign that evokes thoughts of completion and a curiosity in other aspects of life.

Today the word 'retirement' does not automatically mean the end of a career. You can retire from red ball cricket but continue in white. You can retire specifically from one of three formats, or retire from all international cricket but continue playing T20 franchise cricket around the world. Then of course you can retire and soon – that ugly word – 'unretire', as Ben Stokes has done, and Shahid Afridi did half a dozen times.

South Africa's Quentin de Kock has said he will retire at the end of this year's World Cup, as has Afghanistan's Naveen-ul Haq. Others say this will be their "last World Cup", and considering their ages it is not difficult to understand why. Still others have spoken of or hinted at quitting white ball cricket, players like Moeen Ali and David Warner.

Tendulkar's exit

Just how important is it for a player who has served for long to get a proper farewell? A decade ago, Sachin Tendulkar was given the kind of send-off most players can only dream of. He was allowed to play his 200th and final Test at his home ground Mumbai, and in that two-match competition against the West Indies, the remaining 21 players in each Test were mere props in the drama that was Tendulkar's one-man show.

As the finest batsman of his time, perhaps of all time when you also consider the range of formats he played and the number of grounds around the world he played on, Tendulkar might have felt entitled to a proper, significant, memorable goodbye. And he got it.

No one complained. It was seen as the great getting his due. Sometimes, if you plan well as Steve Waugh did, you can get a farewell through a whole series, with standing ovations at every venue.

Of India's golden generation, Anil Kumble and Sourav Ganguly retired in 2008, having announced earlier they were doing so and thus giving fans the chance to say goodbye. Rahul Dravid and V.V.S. Laxman retired five months apart in 2012 following a poor series in Australia, and choosing to make the announcement at their home venues in the presence of family and friends. They might have liked to walk off into the sunset after one final grand innings, but that was not to be. That Laxman did not get to play the World Cup was one of his biggest disappointments.

Virender Sehwag, one of the game's most innovative openers, felt towards the end of his career that he should be allowed a farewell Test.

He also wanted to bat in the middle order. Neither wish was granted, and he announced his retirement on social media from Dubai, two years after his final Test.

Jump before being pushed

To jump before being pushed is the wish of every professional. Some, like Kumble and Ganguly, interpret the writing on the wall correctly and leave the field on the shoulders of their teammates (Kumble), or after being allowed to lead the team one final time by the skipper (Ganguly).

Of the 13 players with over 100 Tests for India (one, Virat Kohli is still playing), these two and Sunil Gavaskar were (Tendulkar apart) probably the only to leave on their own terms. Gavaskar, 74, said last year that he hadn't written to the cricket board saying he was retiring in 1987, and so hadn't officially retired yet!

Whether they announce it or not, some of the finest of this generation will be playing their final match over the next few weeks.

Sometimes the end comes gradually, as the runs or wickets dry up; sometimes abruptly when a defeat leads to a churning in the team. The World Cup is often a platform for the final bow.

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